FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 MARCH 1985

Iran-Iraq War

Iraq achieved a "strategic victory" in the East Tigris operational sector that "decisively settled" the war in favor of Iraq, according to an 18 March Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. Nevertheless, reports from the Iranian Badr operations area cited by Tehran radio maintained that Iranian forces established positions over a 500 square km area of the Hawr al-Hawizah region. Meanwhile, Iran hit Baghdad with surface-to-surface missiles on 18 and 19 March, IRNA reported. The 18 March attack hit the new Iraqi Foreign Ministry building, and the 19 March attack hit the Dora industrial district, the agency noted. While Iraqi media have not reported either attack on Baghdad, Tehran and Baghdad radios acknowledged the continued bombings of Iranian and Iraqi towns on 18 March. However, INA denied IRNA reports that five Iraqi planes were shot down over Iran on 18 March.

Responding to Iraq's announcement of an "exclusion zone" for civilian airlines over Iran, an Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman stated that Iraq's threats will spread the war and increase tension, Tehran radio announced. The spokesman called on international organizations to take the necessary steps to stop Iraq's "illegal acts."

Egypt-Jordan Diplomacy

Jordan's King Husayn and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak expressed solidarity with and their complete support for Iraq in its "just battle" during an unexpected 18 March working visit to Baghdad, according to Baghdad radio. Iraqi President Saddam Husayn briefed King Husayn and Mubarak on developments in the Iran-Iraq war and the three discussed "strong fraternal ties" during 4 hours of talks, the radio reported. Reporting Mubarak and King Husayn's departure for Baghdad, IRNA stated that Baghdad is "completely unsafe" and could be attacked at any time.

President Mubarak and King Husayn's Baghdad visit followed their 18 March talks in Amman during which Mubarak informed King Husayn about his recent talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan and West European leaders, Amman radio stated. During his talks with King Husayn, Mubarak gave "a more positive image" of the U.S. position on his proposals and said the U.S. administration "has shown more flexibility" concerning the Arab viewpoint, a *JORDAN TIMES* report on the talks asserted.

Lebanon

Phalangist Internal Crisis — Citing informed sources, AFP maintained that opposing Phalangist groups agreed to a compromise plan to heal their split. The agency contended that a "news blackout" on the plan is in effect but that details would be revealed soon. In a phone call to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, President Amin al-Jumayyil asserted that the situation is "improving," Damascus radio related.

IDF Operation — Two "terrorists" were killed when IDF forces searched the village of Ma'rub on 18 March, Jerusalem radio announced.

Sudan

President Ja'far Numaryi issued a decree relieving 'Umar al-'Ubayd Bilal as economic adviser, SUNA reported.

Pakistan-DRA

Four Afghan planes violated Pakistan's airspace on 18 March and dropped nine bombs near Arandu, according to Karachi radio. Pakistan's Foreign Ministry lodged a "strong protest" over this "unprovoked attack," the radio reported.

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Yasir 'Arafat Receives Letter From King Husayn

JN181859 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has received a letter from Jordan's King Husayn on the latest developments in the Arab arena, particularly developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war. The letter was delivered to Brother Abu 'Ammar by Jordanian Ambassador in Tunis Nabih al-Nimr when Abu 'Ammar received him last night.

Fatah Revolutionary Council: Abu Nidal Alive

JN181525 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1510 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus, 18 Mar (SANA) — The Fatah Revolutionary Council official spokesman has stated that Brother Sabri al-Banna [Abu Nidal]is actively carrying out his duties and responsibilities. The spokesman was replying to statements attributed to a French police official and other French sources who claimed that Abu Nidal is dead and that the interview attributed to him had taken place with his second-in-command. The official spokesman said that the movement's command has decided to invite the French authorities to meet with Brother Abu Nidal in any Arab country which they deem fit and in the presence of representatives of the French press and *AFRIQUE-ASIE* magazine. The meeting will also be attended by representatives of progressive regimes and Palestinian and Arab forces and factions who wish to attend.

Palestinian Anti-'Arafat Front To Be Proclaimed

GF181528 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 17 Mar 85 p 19

[Text] *AL-WATAN* has learned that the factions of the Palestinian resistance have agreed to proclaim the establishment of a "Palestinian National Salvation Front [Jabhat al-Inqadh al-Watani al-Filastini]" on 30 March 1985.

The agreement follows the elimination of the obstacle that delayed the announcement: namely, the demand of the joint command — which comprises the Fatah dissidents, as well as the Fatah Revolutionary Council, which is led by Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna] — to have a special position in the front's leadership. At a recent meeting attended by the various parties in the proposed front, Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], secretary of the provisional command of the Fatah dissident movement, agreed to the principle of equal representation of all the parties participating in the front's leadership. This prompted the Fatah Revolutionary Council to withdraw from the meeting.

AL-WATAN has learned that the draft of the basic principles of the front's organizational formula provides for the following:

1. The Palestinian National Salvation Front is a provisional framework that will work for the PLO's return to its national [watani], anti-imperialist, and anti-Zionist line, which is opposed to reactionary plans and capitulatory solutions, will topple the path of deviation and those who represent it, and will ensure the continuation of the revolution.

2. The Palestinian National Salvation Front comprises Palestinian factions, forces, and nationalist [wataniyah] figures wherever they are. The front is open to everyone who agrees to its political program.

3. Relations within the Palestinian National Salvation Front will be on a democratic basis.

4. The front will have a national [wataniyah] leadership that makes decisions on the basis of a consensus. In the absence of a consensus every party will have the right to express its stand independently.

5. The front's leadership will set up a number of specialized working committees to carry out basic tasks. The committees will draw up bylaws and action programs and these will be approved by the front's leadership.

6. After the front's formation, its leadership will draw up bylaws that will regulate and organize the front's work.

Reportage on Anti-Israeli Resistance Operations

Israeli Positions Attacked

JN161719 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces men resumed their operations against Zionist occupation forces in southern Lebanon. Heroes of the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces detonated high-explosive charges while a Zionist military convoy was traveling near the town of Sukkarah in southern Lebanon this morning. A military vehicle was destroyed and all its soldiers were either killed or wounded. Heroes of the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces also attacked a Zionist position near the Burj al-Shamali camp in southern Lebanon. The attack, which was carried out with machine guns and rockets, resulted in direct hits scored on the Zionist position. A number of enemy soldiers were either killed or wounded.

Joint forces men attacked a Zionist position near the town of Jwayya. A group of the joint forces launched a number of missiles at the position. The missiles destroyed the position and killed or wounded all of its occupants. Another group of the joint forces also used machineguns and rockets to attack another Zionist military position near Wadi Jilu in southern Lebanon. The attack destroyed the position and killed or wounded a number of enemy soldiers. The Zionist military spokesman admitted these operations but, as usual, claimed that he sustained no casualties. He added that his forces cordoned off the operations areas and launched search campaigns for the heroes of the joint forces. However, these attempts were in vain.

Israeli Factory Burned

JN171719 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] The Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command has issued the following military communique:

One of our groups operating inside the occupied homeland planted incendiary charges in a textile factory in Bet Shemesh composed of three stories on Friday night, 8 March 1985. The factory was burned to the ground. The group returned safely to base.

Zionist Military Car Attacked

JN181635 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] A Palestinian military spokesman has stated the following:

A group of our hero revolutionaries attacked a Zionist military car with incendiary bombs yesterday while it was passing near the Ma'ale Adummim settlement. As a result of the attack, the car was set on fire and its Zionist occupants were seriously wounded. The enemy radio admitted the operation, but declined to mention any losses. The radio added that Zionist forces immediately carried out large-scale search operations in search of our hero revolutionaries.

Tyre District Positions Attacked

JN171743 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Heroes of the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces have escalated their operations against the Zionist occupation forces' personnel and vehicles and their agents in occupied southern Lebanon, inflicting heavy losses in life and equipment. Heroes of the joint forces used machineguns and rockets to attack a Zionist military position in the town of Al-Buss in the Tyre District in occupied southern Lebanon yesterday. The attack killed or wounded several Zionist soldiers.

Heroes of the joint forces also attacked a Zionist military patrol near the town of Majdal (Zannun) in the Tyre District in occupied southern Lebanon. The attack, which was carried out with machineguns and rockets, destroyed one Zionist jeep and damaged another, killing or wounding all of their occupants.

Heroes of the joint forces attacked a Zionist military position in the town of Jull al-Bahr in the city of Tyre yesterday. The attack, which was carried out with machineguns and rockets, destroyed a Zionist jeep near the position and killed or wounded a number of Zionist soldiers. The Zionist military spokesman admitted the three operations but, as usual, declined to mention losses. He said his forces immediately cordoned of the operations areas, launched large-scale search campaigns, and arrested a large number of citizens on the pretext of having connections with the heroes of the joint forces, who withdrew safely to their bases.

4 Resistance Operations Detailed

JN181658 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Heroes of the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces continue to escalate their operations against Zionist occupation forces' personnel and vehicles and their agents in occupied southern Lebanon, inflicting heavy losses in life and equipment. Heroes of the joint forces used machineguns to attack a Zionist patrol near Jibshit, west of Al-Nabatiyah in occupied southern Lebanon yesterday. As a result of the attack, several patrol soldiers were either killed or wounded. Heroes of the joint forces also activated high-explosive charges under a Zionist military patrol near Khirbat Silm in occupied southern Lebanon yesterday. The explosion destroyed one Zionist military jeep, damaged another, and their occupants were either killed or wounded.

Heroes of the joint forces used machineguns and rockets to attack a Zionist military position in Kafr Jawz, north of Al-Nabatiyah in occupied southern Lebanon yesterday, killing or wounding many Zionist soldiers. Heroes of the joint forces, using katyushas, attacked a military position belonging to the agent militias in Jarju' between Jazzin and Al-Nabatiyah yesterday, completely destroying the agent positions and killing or wounding the agents in them. The Zionist military spokesman admitted the four operations but, as usual, declined to mention his losses or those of his agents. He said his forces immediately cordoned off the operations areas, launched large-scale search campaigns, and arrested a large number of citizens on the pretext of having connections with the heroes of the joint forces, who safely withdrew to their bases.

Voice of PLO Comments on 'Warning' to U.S.

JN182112 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1631 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Political editor's dispatch]

[Text] There is almost a consensus, even by the parties directly concerned, that the United States did not show enthusiasm toward the initiative which some of its Arab advocates describe as the last chance for peace in the Middle East. Perhaps Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's visit to Washington has been the dividing line in this respect. President Mubarak submitted his own ideas, which he believed to be most moderate and most practical. He carried these ideas with him to convince the U.S. Administration. He was of the opinion that his attainment of positive results in Washington would cancel the reservations expressed even by those in favor of activating the peace process. However, the Egyptian president returned from the U.S. capital warning against consequences that may result from U.S. indifference to this peace process, including the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement.

In Washington President Mubarak represented the maximum degree of what the Western world likes to call Arab moderation. The Arabs concerned might accept that description, as President Mubarak is doing in the present stage. President Mubarak warned the United States against the consequences of its inaction toward the many steps and current preparations to stimulate the peace process. He stressed on two successive occasions last week that extremist trends, or radicalism, will prevail in the region if the opportunity to achieve a settlement is lost. He also warned that the Palestinians will join that trend. President Mubarak added that very serious developments would result from such a state of affairs and that the developments would certainly harm U.S. interests.

It is really very difficult to know what President Mubarak intended when he used the expressions "extremism" or "radicalism." It is also very difficult to know which parties in our region can be described as such. We will not worry ourselves with the futile interpretation of this or that trend. In fact, it would have been easy to avoid falling into the trap of these expressions with which the Western world, for reasons of its own, likes to classify Arab and non-Arab forces.

There was also no need to curry the favor of the United States by using these expressions, as if there is a party in the region which is assuming the responsibility of protecting U.S. interests while another party assumes the responsibility of threatening them.

It is better and more profitable to make Arab interests the yardstick. If there are some who believe that such a general Arab interest no longer exists, then it would be more profitable to have Egyptian, Palestinian, Syrian, or Jordanian interests become the yardstick, but most certainly not U.S. or any such interests. If Arab interests in general or any Arab country's interest dictate a policy that others may describe as moderate, the champions of such a policy must not become victims of these expressions. Their policy must be worded in an independent language, whether this policy attains success or reaches a deadlock. This independent language must address those it wants to address in accordance with the Arabs' yardstick and propose their concept of peace through the interests of those who speak this language and by warning others, through the Arabs' strength, of the consequences of not responding to this concept of peace.

The champions of the initiative which seeks to stimulate the peace process in the region must, first and foremost, express the Arab interest in such a peace process. At the same time, they must warn others that by not responding to this initiative they will have to face the Arabs' strength. Egypt must warn that it will use Egypt's weight. It can also warn that the others who are supporting it will use their weight as well. If this takes place, we do not think Arabs would not respond to this weight. Nor do we believe that Washington would not respond to it.

GULF AFFAIRS

Further Reportage on GCC Foreign Ministers Meeting

Statement on Iran-Iraq War

LD191347 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1155 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Riyadh, 19 Mar (SPA) — The ministerial council of the countries of the GCC has expressed its regret and sorrow for the continued Iraq-Iran war, for the latest developments in this war, the continued shelling of civilian targets, and the devastation inflicted on the peoples of the two neighboring countries which are tied together by faith and neighborliness.

This appeared in the statement issued by the GCC at the end of its meetings today on the Iraq-Iran war. It was read by 'Abdallah Bisharah, secretary general of the GCC. Here follows the text of the statement:

The Ministerial Council of the GCC during its 14th session in Riyadh from 26 to 28 Jamada al-Akhirah, 1405 AH, corresponding to 17-19 March 1985 AD, discussed the Iraq-Iran war and the latest developments which have occured in this war, the continued shelling of civilian targets, the destruction it has caused, the casualties suffered by innocent civilians and defenseless inhabitants. The council expresses its sorrow and pain for the sufferings of innocent civilians and for the destruction caused by this war to the peoples of the two neighboring countries which are linked together by faith and neighborliness. It also studied the gravity of the escalation of the war to security and stability in the region and the threat to international security and peace it will produce. [sentence as received]

The council has followed up the recent escalation with anxiety and it affirms its full solidarity with Iraq in preserving the sovereignty, safety and integrity of its territory.

It calls on Iran to respond to the international efforts to find a peaceful solution to this war and demands it should not cross Iraqi territory and should respect the international borders between the two countries.

The council notes with satisfaction Iraq's stance which is backed by its acceptance of all the resolutions passed by the Security Council and all international initiatives and calls for a halt to military operations to find a peaceful settlement for the conflict between the two countries.

The council has decided in pursuit of the resolutions of the fifth session of the GCC Supreme Council held in the state of Kuwait in November 1984 AD, to intensify contacts with the sister Arab countries, to rise to the responsibility to implement the resolutions of the Arab summit conference in Fes connected with the Iraq-Iran war, to exert their efforts to maintain the unity of Arab territory, and to endeavor to cooperate with them to reach a just solution that takes into consideration the legitimate rights of both Iraq and Iran.

The council stresses its readiness to continue to exert all efforts and to intensify endeavors to put an end to this devastating war, including sending a delegation to Tehran and to Baghdad to discuss without any delay the quickest way to stop the war. The council also announced its complete readiness to carry out its duty imposed upon it by the righteous Islamic faith and the rights of neighborliness and fraternity, and hopes for a response to this posture.

The council also announces its backing for the efforts of the United Nations, the Islamic Conference Organization, and the Nonaligned Movement and calls on the UN secretary general to exert more efforts to contact the two sides to find a peaceful solution for the dispute between them.

The council has decided to keep the present session open, realizing the gravity of the present stage, the speedy moves required and the manifestation of the positive roles it could play in ending the dispute.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, the Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, then delivered a speech after the conclusion [as received] in which, on behalf of the participants, he expressed appreciation and gratitude for His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz for his support. He beseeched God to protect his majesty and to maintain security and stability over our region in general.

The Kuwaiti minister also expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the participation of the foreign ministers in this meeting and for the good efforts they exerted in these conditions to make the meeting a success.

He said that the ministers agreed that the 14th session should remain open to follow up the developments of the situation in the region.

Kuwaiti on Defending Iraq

LD191407 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1315 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Mar (KUNA) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, stated that the Iraqi territories "are Arabic territories and it is the duty of all Arabs to defend any part of the Iraqi territories occupied by Iran."

In a press conference held this afternoon after the meeting of the GCC Council of Ministers Shaykh al-Sabah added that he will be meeting later on today with the Iraqi leadership "in order to know the exact situation and the nature of the political move which the GCC countries could undertake in order to stop this devastating war." He announced his readiness to travel to Tehran in order to meet the Iranian leadership "if Iran expresses its approval for it in order to exert all efforts and attempts to stop the war."

He stressed that the GCC countries "support Iraq's stance in defending its territories and as it is not occupying someone else's territory." He added: "The GCC countries salute the Iraqi leadership, the Iraqi officers, the Iraqi soldiers and the Army of the Iraqi people which stood like men in order to defend their country and the sanctuary of their home."

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad announced that he has been delegated by the GCC to go to Baghdad later on today to consult with the foreign minister of Iraq, Tariq 'Aziz, in a political move to find acceptable solutions to all parties to halt the Iraq-Iran war. He said: "This bloody conflict pains and grieves us when we see fighting among Muslim brothers which has gone to such lengths."

The deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister stressed the statement issued by the foreign ministers of the GCC at midday today which announced the readiness of the countries of the council to go to Tehran and Baghdad to help in finding harmony between the two sides.

Regarding the stance of the countries of the GCC toward the Iraq-Iran war, Shaykh Sabah said: "We back Iraq because it was attacked and its territory is Arab. It is our right as Arabs to support Iraq and we support Iraq in defending its territory. Iraq's territory is not just Iraqi but also Arab territory."

As to whether the Arab summit will be held in the future, the deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister said: "An Arab foreign ministers' meeting is to be held in Tunis on the 25th of this month and the subject of the summit will be discussed at this meeting, as we do not object to convening such a summit. However, what is important is that the summit should succeed and the disputes should not intensify more than they already have."

Kuwaiti Minister to Baghdad

LD191231 Kuwait KUNA in English 1213 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Riyadh, March 19 (KUNA) — Kuwait Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad left here for Baghdad Tuesday on a lightning visit, the KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY learnt. Sources at the General Secretariat of the GCC said Shaykh Sabah who is chairing current meeting of the 14th session of the GCC ministerial council in the Saudi capital will brief President Saddam Husayn and other senior Iraqi officials on the outcome of the foreign ministers' meetings and GCC course of action in the framework of efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war and find a common ground between the two combatants to resolve the conflict.

KUNA also learnt that another GCC foreign minister, possibly UAE State Minister for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi might fly to Iran at any moment if he receives the green light from Tehran.

Shaykh Sabah and Rashid 'Abdallah visited both Baghdad and Tehran almost two years ago as part of GCC efforts to end the four and half years conflict but failed to make any progress.

Ministers Received by King

LD182001 Riyadh SPA in English 1909 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Riyadh, March 18, SPA — HM King Fahd received at the royal camp outside Riyadh today foreign ministers of member states of the GCC. The audience was attended by Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the governor of Riyadh; Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister; and Prince Bandar ibn Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Saudi ambassador to Washington. It was also attended by GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah.

BAHRAIN

Deputy Amir Receives U.S. Commander 16 March

GF161146 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1054 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] Manama, 16 Mar (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Bahraini deputy amir, received here today Lieutenant General Robert Kingston, commander of the U.S. Central Command, who is currently visiting Manama.

The audience was attended by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, foreign minister; Staff Brigadier General Shaykh Khalifah ibn Ahmad Al Khalifah, chief of staff of the Bahrain Defense Force; Donald Leidel, U.S. ambassador to Bahrain; and the delegation accompanying the U.S. commander.

Cabinet Expresses Concern Over Gulf War

GF171633 Manama WAKH in English 1615 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Manama, 17 Mar (WAKH) — The Bahraini Cabinet expressed deep concern over the flare-up in the Iraq-Iran war which affected the civilian targets in both countries. At its weekly session today under the Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the Cabinet said continuation of the war drains both countries human and economic resources.

Bahraini Development and Industry Minister and acting State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Yusuf Ahmad al-Shirawi said the Cabinet expressed the hope that GCC ministerial council, in its session to start in Riyadh later today, would suggest ways of staunching the bloodshed in both countries and help bring peace and stability to the region.

The Cabinet was also briefed on the contents of the message addressed to H.H. the Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah from King Husayn of Jordan which dealt with current Arab developments and joint Arab moves to end the Iraq-Iran war.

OMAN

Tunisian Information Minister Arrives for Visit

GF161752 Manama WAKH in English 1645 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] March 16 (WAKH) — Tunisian Information Minister Abderrazak Kefi arrived here today on a three-day visit to Oman. The Tunisian minister will hold talks with his Omani counterpart 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rawwas on promoting information cooperation between Oman and Tunisia.

The talks will focus on radio and television programs and exchange of expertise. Kefi said that his country is keen to increase information cooperation.

Received by Sultan
GF171432 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Excerpt] His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id received in his office at Al-Hisn Palace this afternoon Tunisian Information Minister Abderrazak Kefi. The audience was attended by Information Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rawwas and the Tunisian ambassador to the sultanate.

Concludes Visit, Departs
GF181645 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Tunisian Information Minister Abderrazak Kefi left the country today after a 3-day visit to the Sultanate. During his visit he met with His Majesty Sultan Qabus. He also held talks with Minister of Information 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rawwas.

Deputy Premier Receives UK Air Force Commander
GF171630 Manama WAKH in English 1612 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Muscat, 17 Mar (WAKH) — Omani Deputy Prime Minister for Security and Defense Affairs Sayyid Fahar ibn Taymur met here today with Commander of British Air Force Sir G.C.B Williamson and his accompanying delegation, currently visiting Oman. The meeting discussed bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

QATAR

Heir Apparent Receives U.S. Commander 17 Mar
GF171303 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and minister of defense, received at his office this morning Lieutenant General Robert Kingston, commander of the U.S. Central Command, on the occasion of his visit to the State of Qatar. The meeting was attended by Colonel Shaykh 'Abdallah ibn Khalifah Al Thani, assistant to the deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces; Charles Franklin Dunbar, U.S. ambassador to the state of Qatar; and a number of senior Army officers.

Arabs Urged Not To Receive U.S. Envoy Murphy
GF171832 Doha QNA in Arabic 0940 GMT 17 Mar 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Doha, 17 Mar (QNA) — The Qatari newspaper *AL-RAYAH* today urged concerned Arab countries not to receive U.S. envoy Richard Murphy, who will visit the region shortly. Refusing to receive him is a minimum measure "to reply to U.S. policy supporting the Zionist enemy and rejecting recognition of Arab rights," the paper said. In its editorial, the newspaper denounced Washington's announcement of Murphy's new tour in the region. The paper questioned the reason for this tour at a time when the United States continues its immoral stand on the Palestinian issue.

AL-RAYAH noted Washington's rejection of the proposals which Egyptian President Husni Mubarak presented during his recent visit to the United States and its use of the veto against the Security Council's resolution to condemn Israel's crimes. These are some of the stands which show the United States' total bias to the Zionist entity, the paper said. The paper asked: Will Murphy's new tour be to inform us again of these biased stands? Or will it be to confirm support to Israel? Or will it be to continue the drama of deception the United States is presenting to us?

SAUDI ARABIA

Further Reportage on Visit of Turkish Prime Minister

Ozal Comments on Visit
TA181524 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1100 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Prime Minister Turgut Ozal has said that Saudi Arabia is ready to provide all kinds of support to help solve Turkey's problems. Speaking at a news conference in Riyadh today, Ozal reviewed his official visit to Saudi Arabia. He stressed that his talks in Riyadh were held in a friendly atmosphere and that bilateral and international issues were discussed in detail. Pointing out that his talks with King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz held yesterday lasted more than 3 hours, Ozal said that they were held in an atmosphere of great friendliness and fellowship.

The Turkish Radio and Television team reports Ozal saying that he found that Saudi Arabia — like Turkey — is greatly concerned about the war between Iran and Iraq. Ozal added: The recent upswing in the war which is causing the death of thousands of people as the result of the bombing of the cities has created great anxiety among the region's countries. Taking this new development into consideration, we have discussed ways and means to deal with this situation in the long run. We concluded that great efforts are necessary to stop this ongoing and difficult war.

Ozal said that the solution of this problem and the use of resources in the best possible way would create closer regional cooperation. He continued: I am convinced that a great economic structure can be set up in the area if the inhabitants of the region coexist in peace and maintain better relations, using available human and natural resources. We are working to achieve this ideal and we will continue to do so. Ozal said that though such a development can take time, Turkey and Saudi Arabia will take the necessary steps for its realization.

He said that during his talks, he was briefed by the king on his new initiative for solving the Middle East problem and the contacts he made in the United States to this end.

He related that bilateral relations were also discussed, adding that his relationship gained a new impetus following the visit paid by President Kenan Evren to Saudi Arabia. This relationship, Ozal said, is spreading to almost all areas and is likely to spread

farther in the future. Pointing out that there was a steady flow of Turkish workers to Saudi Arabia, he said that recently some 4,000 workers went to Saudi Arabia every month. He added that Saudi Arabia particularly preferred Turkish workers.

Ozal said that the promotion of bilateral relations affected the number of tourists coming from Saudi Arabia. In the past, 80,000 to 90,000 tourists had visited Turkey yearly; in 1984, the number had reached 300,000. This number is expected to rise in 1985, Ozal said. He recalled that Turkey unilaterally accorded Saudi Arabian citizens the right to acquire property in Turkey, adding this process is expected to intensify in the near future and could lay the groundwork for joint investment opportunities.

He said Saudi Arabia is providing Turkey with funds to eliminate slums and to construct a second bridge at the Bosporus. He expressed his belief that aid from Saudi Arabia will continue, particularly for civic projects.

Ozal remarked that joint investment opportunities are increasing and that Saudi businessmen have invested heavily in Turkey. He said the establishment of a joint investment company has reached its final stages.

In reply to questions, Ozal said that the issue of Turks living in Bulgaria was also discussed during his talks. He said: Saudi Arabia is on our side on this issue.

On cooperation in the bilateral defense industry, the prime minister said this issue was clarified during his visit. He added that the subject of health installations that would meet the needs of the Middle East was also discussed.

In response to another question, Ozal said that Turkey, as part of the free market, buys goods from all over the world and that it pays special attention to the high quality of goods it exports to Saudi Arabia.

He pointed out that the issue of Greece was also briefly discussed during the talks and said: We do not want to attach more importance than necessary to this issue.

Ozal said that Turkish contractors who would work meticulously and efficiently in Saudi Arabia could receive more work in that country.

Following the news conference, Ozal visited the King Saud University and the King Khalid War College. In the afternoon, Ozal is expected to be present at the horse race being organized by the Royal Marksmanship Club.

Norwegian Oil Minister Arrives in Riyadh

LD172309 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1820 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Riyadh, 17 Mar (SPA) — The Norwegian minister of oil and energy, Kaare Kristiansen, and the accompanying delegation arrived this evening in Riyadh for a visit of several days to the Kingdom. He was welcomed at King Khalid International Airport by the minister of petroleum and mineral resources, Ahmad Zaki Yamani; the under secretary, 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Turaki; the ambassador of Norway in the Kingdom; and a number of officials at the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources.

Yamani, Kristiansen Press Conference

LD181813 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Riyadh, 18 Mar (SPA) — Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Ahmad Zaki Yamani stressed that the oil prices fluctuate as a result of increasing production and the stoppage of oil exports because of the escalation of the Iraq-Iran war. However, he said, that is not expected at present. He said in a news conference, in which Norwegian Oil and Energy Minister Kaare Kristiansen took part, that OPEC has resisted all pressures from certain quarters to reduce oil prices. He expressed hope that the coming period will see stability in oil prices.

Ahmad Zaki Yamani warned against the dangers of increasing oil production which could lead to a reduction of prices below $20 a barrel, pointing out that increased production will not compensate the producing countries for losses resulting from reduced prices.

He pointed out that the British Government's decision last week to liquidate the British National Oil Company will not affect the stability of oil prices. However, it might not encourage small companies in the North Sea to produce at their maximum capacity.

He explained that OPEC's gross production in February was less than 15 million barrels, while production last January was about 14 million barrels a day. He described his talks with the Norwegian minister of oil and energy as fruitful and constructive, expressing his optimism over the results of the talks.

The Norwegian minister of oil and energy said during a news conference that he hopes for stability of oil prices and production and stressed that his country will maintain the level of production during 1985.

Indonesian Defense Minister Arrives 18 Mar

GF181808 Jeddah Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Excerpt] The Indonesian defense minister arrived in Jeddah tonight on a visit of 2 days, during which he will perform 'Umrah [the minor pilgrimage]. He will also visit the prophet's mosque in Medina.

Comoros Islands President Departs Jeddah 19 Mar

LD190959 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0858 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 19 Mar (SPA) — Ahmed Abdallah Abderemane, president of the Comoros Islands, left Jeddah for home this morning after a visit to the Kingdom during which he attended the minor pilgrimage.

PDRY

Arab People's Conference Meetings Begin 16 Mar

GF161618 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Mar 85

[From "The News and Reports" program]

[Excerpt] The meetings of the first session of the Standing Secretariat of the Arab People's Conference and its joint meeting with the International Secretariat of Solidarity With the Arab People and their central issue, Palestine, opened at Aden Hotel today.

The opening session was attended by Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers; Dr 'Abdallah al-Khamiri, candidate member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Yemeni Peace and Solidarity Council; Mahmud al-Najashi, member of the YSP Central Committee and deputy secretary of the Central Committee; a number of other party and state officials; delegations of the General Arab People's Conference; and envoys of the Arab Liberation movements which form the main basis of the Arab People's Conference.

The session was also attended by observing delegations of progressive and revolutionary parties and organizations in various countries.

Chairman Meets Conference Officials

GF171444 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Surpeme People's Council Presidium, today received in his office at the YSP Secretariat Brother Taysir Kubba'a, member of the PFLP Central Committee.

They discussed a number of matters related to developing the struggle relations between the YSP and the PFLP, in addition to reviewing developments on the Palestinian arena and ways to consolidate Palestinian national unity and the struggle of the Arab Palestinian people vis-a-vis the aggressive challenges and the defeatist plans aimed at obliterating their legitimate rights.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad also received today Brother 'Ummar al-Khamidi, secretary general of the Arab People's conference. During the meeting, they reviewed current developments in the Arab arena in view of the increased number of conspiracies and aggressive schemes by the imperialist and Zionist forces which aim at undermining the Arab national liberation movement and restoring colonialist hegenomy to the Arab region.

During the meeting, the brother secretary general expressed his satisfaction at the convening of the 1985 session of the General Secretariat of the Arab people's conference in Aden and the positive results achieved. He pointed out the importance of mobilizing the energies and capabilities of the Arab peoples and their nationalist and progressive forces and enhancing the struggle of the Arab national liberation movement to confront all dangers which threaten our Arab peoples as a result of the aggressive and expansionist policies of the forces of the imperialist-Zionist alliance.

Deputy Chairman Receives Libyans

GF171441 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Brother Staff Colonel 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, member of the YSP Political Bureau and deputy chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, today received in his office the Libyan delegation to the Arab people's conference session under Brother Mukhtar Qarba'.

During the meeting they reviewed the latest developments in the Arab and Palestinian arenas. Brother 'Ali 'Antar praised our country's fundamental and constant stand on the Palestinian cause and called for supporting the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Arab Palestinian people.

He referred to the PDRY's stand on the Amman agreement and called for unity among the Palestinian action factions in light of the Aden-Algiers agreement in order to overthrow all defeatist solutions aimed at dividing the ranks of the PLO.

On relations between the PDRY and Libya, Brother 'Ali 'Antar praised the cooperation between the two countries. He affirmed the need to consolidate and strengthen these relations for the good of the two fraternal countries and peoples.

First Session Concludes

GF171509 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Excerpt] The Arab people's conference today concluded its first session at Aden Hotel. The conference announced its resolutions and recommendations.

The conference also issued a political statement emphasizing several issues discussed during the session. The political statement reviewed the great dangers facing the Arab region, in relation to the increase of imperialist, reactionary, and Zionist plots. It denounced these plots, beginning with Camp David and ending with the Amman agreement. It praised the escalation of the Lebanese and Palestinian popular struggle against imperialist and Zionist aggression and affirmed its support for the Palestinian revolution and its united aims on a basis of opposition to imperialism.

The statement praised the honest support the USSR extends to the struggle of the Arab peoples for the sake of their liberation and progress. It also called for the need to end the Iraq-Iran war and to act against imperialist military presence and bases in the region. The statement also praised the support by the YSP and the PDRY people toward the success of the session.

The Secretariat of the Arab people's conference has considered the speech of Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers, at the commencement of the session, which is a political document among the session documents.

DFLP's Hawatimah Meets With Chairman 17 Mar

GF171615 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, today received in his office Brother Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the DFLP. During the meeting, they reviewed the political developments which the Arab region is witnessing.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad affirmed that the PDRY's support for the Palestinian people and their sole, legitimate representative, the PLO, draw their constancy from the struggle nature of the revolutions of the Yemeni and Palestinian people. He pointed out the danger of defeatist plans and said that they do not aim solely at liquidating the Palestinian cause and voiding the content of the national, freedom-seeking, anti-imperialist, and anti-Zionist struggle, but also aim at consolidating imperialist and Zionist control over our Arab region, and attacking nationalist and progressive forces, because they represent the effective vanguard of our Arab peoples in the course of their national, freedom-seeking struggle for the sake of independent development and social progress.

On his part, Brother Nayif Hawatimah praised the prominent struggle role which the PDRY plays in supporting our Arab peoples and the unlimited support its gives to the Palestinian people to restore PLO unity and achieve legitimate Palestinian rights to return to their homeland, to self-determination, and to establish a national independent state on their national soil.

Departs Aden 18 Mar

GF181442 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Brother Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the DFLP left Aden this morning after a visit to the PDRY lasting several days. During his visit he met with Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and a number of state and YSP officials. During these meetings, they reviewed the latest developments in the Palestinian arena.

He was seen off at the airport by Brother Mahmud al-Najashi, member of the YSP Central Committee and deputy secretary of the YSP Central Committee; a number of officials in the YSP Central Committee Secretariat, and Brother Abu Firas, DFLP representative in Aden.

2d Round of Talks With FLN Officials Resumes

GF181806 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The second round of talks was held today between the YSP delegation led by Brother Mahmud al-Najashi, member and deputy secetary of the YSP Central Committee, and the FLN [National Liberation Front] delegation, led by Brother Bachir Khaldoun, member of the FLN Standing Committee of the Secretariat and member of the FLN Central Committee, who is also responsible for culture and the arts.

During this session, the two sides reviewed the role of the two parties in developing and strengthening the fraternal and struggle relations between the two friendly countries, including their role in consolidating the struggle of the Arab peoples against imperialism, Zionism, and reactionaryism, especially in consolidating the struggle of the Arab Palestinian people for achieving their legitimate rights, for the return, self-determination, and establishment of an independent state under the leadership of the PLO as their sole, legitimate representative.

Both sides highly evaluated the initiative of Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, for forming the national [Qawmi] front for steadfastness and confrontation. They affirmed the keenness of the two countries on the success of the steps in this regard.

Following the conclusion of the second round of talks, an agreement was signed on cooperation between the two parties for 1985-1986. The agreement was signed for the YSP side by Brother Mahmud al-Najashi, member and deputy secretary of the YSP Central Committee, and for the FLN side by Brother Bachir Khaldoun, member of the FLN Standing Committee of the Secretariat, and member of the FLN Central Committee, who is responsible for culture and the arts.

YAR

Foreign Minister Departs for Libya 18 Mar

GF181830 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and member of the Standing Committee, left Sanaa for Libya today, carrying a message from Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, to Brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, commander of the 1 September Revolution.

In a statement to SABA' news agency, Dr al-'Iryani said that the letter stems from the intimate fraternal relations between the two fraternal people and the means to bolster and develop those relations in a way that serves them. He said that the message deals with recent events on the Arab and Islamic arenas, in an attempt to unite ranks and eliminate differences in order to avoid the threats of their enemies, foremost of which is the Zionist

enemy, which constitutes the head of the enemies of the Arab and Islamic nation.

Cabinet Reviews Gulf War, Premier's Moscow Trip

GF161500 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Excerpts] The Cabinet held an extraordinary session this morning under the chairmanship of Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, to resume discussion of the plan on the special law for local councils to develop cooperatives.

At the beginning of the meeting the Cabinet heard a comprehensive report on the recent sad developments in the Iraq-Iran war, which has reached its most dangerous stage due to the shelling of towns and due to the Iranian Army's continuous incursions into fraternal Iraq. After comprehensive discussion of these developments in light of the declared stances of the two Muslim countries — Iraq and Iran — and the current military operations taking place on the battlefields, and taking into account the direct threat that this explosive situation poses for the Islamic nation and its existence and future, and since the YAR Government feels its Islamic and national responsibility which stipulates resistance to aggression, it thus affirms its stable and supportive stance for the response of fraternal Iraq to all international and Islamic mediation efforts to end this losing and destructive war.

Taking into account Iran's failure to cooperate with existing mediation efforts and to accept the principle of negotiation to end the war and resolve all the related problems through peaceful negotiations, as affirmed by the resolutions of the 15th Islamic foreign ministers conference in Sanaa in which Iran took part, the YAR Government affirms its stand by the fraternal Iraqi people in defending the Arab territories on the basis of Islamic religion, the decisions of the Arab League, and the joint Arab defense treaty between the Arab countries. The YAR calls on all fraternal Arab countries and Islamic states to adopt positive stances to spare the blood of the Muslims and the capabilities of the two Muslim peoples in Iraq and Iran.

The YAR Government also calls on all countries, particularly the superpowers and the permanent members of the UN Security Council, to take positive and responsible stances within the framework of the UN Charter in order to end this war, which has become a grave danger threatening world security and peace, and subjects all international interests to destruction.

The Cabinet also heard two other reports. The first was submitted by the brother prime minister and member of the Standing Committee on the result of his talks with Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of USSR Council of Ministers and member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, during his brief visit to Moscow to participate in the funeral of former Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko. The Cabinet lauded these talks, which confirm the continuation of mutual cooperation to develop and strengthen the existing relations between our country and the USSR. The Cabinet expressed satisfaction over the development of the Yemeni-Soviet relations.

26 SEPTEMBER on Escalation of Iraq-Iran War

GF160630 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 16 Mar 85

[From the press review]

[Text] On the recent developments in the Iraq-Iran war, the newspaper *26 SEPTEMBER* said: The escalation of this war that has taken place in the past 2 weeks has weakened the possibility of finding a peaceful settlement satisfactory to the warring parties. The continuation of the war and the many mediations and initiatives to stop fighting has made many people hesitate before taking serious and decisive steps to face this expanding war. This war has inflicted heavy losses on the two belligerant parties.

The newspaper warned against the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war because it could lead to intervention by foreigners. This also could have serious repercussions because the continuation of the war will drive the parties [words indistinct] to benefit from it and to reap political and economic fruit.

The newspaper said: Therefore, officials should be aware of the risk of the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war, move to find a peaceful settlement and pressure the two countries with all possible means within the scope of their interests. It also hoped that this shedding of blood and material by two Muslim neighbors will stop.

Mubarak Returns, Reviews Trip to Amman, Baghdad

NC190622 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and the members of his delegation returned to Cairo at dawn today following an intensive 17-hour working tour, which included visits to Jordan and Iraq.

On his return to Cairo, President Mubarak was met by Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production.

King Husayn and President Mubarak left Baghdad's Saddam International Airport last night. They traveled aboard two private planes for Cairo and Amman after a brief, 5-hour working visit to Baghdad. Their visit included a working dinner, which King Husayn and President Mubarak used to exchange views with President Saddam Husayn on Middle East issues.

Upon returning to Cairo, President Mubarak answered questions from foreign journalists. In response to a question on the results of his historic visits to Jordan and Iraq, President Mubarak said he met with King Husayn to brief him on the results of his talks in the United States and in certain European countries. The president said his talks with King Husayn dealt with the latest Middle East developments, and with recent events in Iraq. He added: My trip to Iraq fell within the framework of Egypt's friendship with the entire Arab people.

President Mubarak said he received two invitations from President Saddam Husayn to visit Iraq. He discovered that, under the circumstances, the time was right for him to call on President Saddam Husayn. President Mubarak added: We don't encourage war. Egypt is calling for an end to the Iraq-Iran war, a cause of suffering for the peoples of Iraq and Iran. I ask Iran to find a means of stopping the war and to hold peace talks.

President Mubarak answered a question on whether Egypt and Jordan will increase their military support to Iraq by saying: Iraq doesn't need any additional military support, as its military position is very good.

President Mubarak and King Husayn decided to visit Iraq during their meeting in Amman yesterday afternoon. Immediately after their arrival in Baghdad, King Husayn and President Mubarak met with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. The president briefed them on the situation on the Arab homeland's eastern front, and on the victories that the Iraqi Army has scored over the Iranian forces in recent battles.

AL-AKHBAR on 'Surprising' Baghdad Summit

NC190744 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 19 Mar 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the Baghdad summit involving President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, King Husayn, and President Saddam Husayn, *AL-AKHBAR* writes: The meeting was both surprising and necessary. The paper points out that the Iraq-Iran war has reached a very dangerous stage affecting all Arabs and Muslims. It adds: The meeting represents an Egyptian effort that must be followed up on by other countries concerned with ending this horrendous and devastating conflict.

AL-AKHBAR continues by saying this effort's true value lies in the fact that Egypt condemns this inhuman war and supports the maintenance of the required regional balance. It points out that Egypt supports Iraq, as the latter has often declared its readiness to hold negotiations and reach a peaceful settlement, while Iran continues to set a condition unacceptable in terms of international law — the overthrow of the Iraqi regime.

AL-AKHBAR urges Iran to resort to reason and accept peace.

Mubarak Interviewed on Mideast, U.S. Relations

GF181513 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 17 Mar 85 pp 1, 12

[Interview with President Husni Mubarak by *AL-QABAS* correspondent Patrick Seale in London — date not given]

[Text] **[Seale]** To what extent is Egypt involved in the war on the Iraqi side?
[Mubarak] We are not involved, as you imply in your question. We support Iraq's defense of its borders. We are against the war as a whole. We do not support either side occupying the other's territory. We consider this war to be extremely dangerous and are exerting our utmost effort to end it. It is an endless and meaningless war which will not benefit either warring side. On the contrary, it is exhausting all their resources through bloodshed.

[Seale] We heave heard that Egypt has been supplying Iraq with special services and its role is much larger than some people believe.
[Mubarak] I will say it clearly — we have no forces in Iraq, including soldiers or anyone on the front lines. There are only engineers and experts who have been in Iraq for a long time. Our forces are not outside our country, either in Iraq or Sudan. I will say very clearly that our forces are within our borders.

[Seale] Are you prepared to send Egyptian forces to Iraq if, for example, Iran crosses the border and heads for Baghdad?
[Mubarak] The Iraqi Armed Forces are capable of defending their country and do not need our forces at all. We never consider such a probability, and we believe that it is better to urge the two sides to achieve a solution than send our forces there.

[Seale] The situation in Sudan is causing much anxiety abroad. What is Egypt's stand on the Sudanese crisis?
[Mubarak] These days, everyone is talking about Sudan as though it is on the edge of anarchy. This is absolutely not true. We have been accustomed to seeing Sudan in this situation. However, thanks to the new information technology, the news from Sudan has been leaked abroad for the first time. The situation does not cause anxiety to this degree and President Numayri can handle the situation well.

[Seale] Do you believe that Numayri will enter into negotiations with the revolutionaries in the south?
[Mubarak] I believe some form of negotiations and discussions has begun.

[Seale] There is information that Colonel John Garang, leader of the revolutionaries in the south, has arrived in Cairo.
[Mubarak] Welcome.

[Seale] Have you met him?
[Mubarak] I have not met him. However, if he comes to Cairo I shall be prepared to meet him.

[Seale] Do you believe Egypt can play the role of a mediator?
[Mubarak] We are doing our best to play this role. However, please do not ask me for any details.

[Seale] Does this mean that Egypt is still supporting President Numayri?
[Mubarak] Yes, of course! We will not abandon Numayri under any circumstances. He is the man the Sudanese people elected.

[Seale] Your Excellency, after your return from Washington, observers feel that the United States intends to respond to terror operations directed against it.
[Mubarak] Listen my friend! Violence breeds more violence. You cannot put an end to violence by resorting to violence or the use of force. Look what happened in Lebanon. At the time, we advised the Israelis not to invade, and we told the Americans: Avoid invading Lebanon and persuade the Israelis not to invade. We hope you understand that invasion will be a grave error. However, they did not listen to us. What has happened? The Palestinians are outside Lebanon, but despite that there is a new and more serious factor. Violence is useless and negotiations are the only way to progress.

[Seale] It seems to me that the United States does not believe that the Palestinian and Islamic violence problems are connected and is trying to separate one from the other.
[Mubarak] This is the business of the United States. We try to explain the situation to them and convince them. They must understand well that our advice is sincere. We try hard to help them because we live in this region and know the psychology of its peoples. I believe my initiative is giving the Americans a golden opportunity. If this opportunity is lost, we will be confronted with hellish problems, not only in the region but also in the whole world.

[Seale] What kind of problems do you expect?
[Mubarak] They will spread terror everywhere.

[Seale] Do you mean the Palestinians, or other forms of terror?
[Mubarak] Various kinds of terror and not only the Palestinians. The Palestinians, who will feel frustrated and desparate, due to lack of a solution, could be persuaded to resort to violence and then be used everywhere. The Palestinians may form an alliance with Muslim extremists to hit at the interests of states which will not support them. I am not only trying to persuade the Americans, but sounding the warning bells for a danger some countries cannot see.

[Seale] You very much pinned your hopes on your U.S. visit. What is your reaction to the setback resulting from it?
[Mubarak] I do not look at it this way at all. I do not understand why information media organs consider it a setback. The press must realize that when a visiting head of state meets with the U.S. Administration, a quick arrival at decisions must not be expected. I went to the United States, this time, to explain to them some of the ideas I have with regard to the means of moving forward the peace process. The beginning was the good agreement reached between King Husayn and the PLO. I said to the Americans that dialogue between the United States and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation will pave the way for the next step, as it will give the Palestinians a feeling of security.

I stressed that direct discussions are necessary if we want to solve the problem. The Americans did not reject any of these ideas and I was not expecting them to grant me their agreement at once. I was not expecting an immediate decision. This is not a simple problem to be decided on at once. The Americans will make contacts with Israelis and other concerned sides, which will take time.

[Seale] Some observers consider that you have gone beyond what King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat agreed on. They asked for an international conference and you have agreed on a conference under the auspices of the United States. They also want a Palestinian delegation within the Jordanian delegation and you have said: Forget the PLO, as it is not important.
[Mubarak] Whoever says this has not understood what I have said. When I say "Palestinian representatives," I mean the PLO, because it is the sole representative of the Palestinians. This was decided by the Fes conference and no one can ignore it.

[Seale] You mean that the PLO must be represented within the joint delegation.
[Mubarak] The PLO is everywhere. It is here in Britain and it is in the United States. If you wish to be the witness, I will bring you 50 Palestinians and you will not be able to say which one is with the PLO and who is against it, unless they themselves declare that they do not belong to the PLO.

[Seale] Am I right to say that among the main reasons for your visit to the United States was to help begin a dialogue between the United States and the Palestinians?
[Mubarak] The dialogue is very important. The PLO has begun dialogue with several countries, including the Soviet Union. If the Americans do not wish to talk with the PLO in particular why don't they talk with it within the framework of a joint delegation?

[Seale] Well! The United States has said "no." In this regard you have failed.
[Mubarak] No. I will not abandon my opinion. I am optimistic. They are not prepared to talk to the PLO alone, but are prepared to talk to a joint delegation.

[Seale] When you were talking to King Hassan last week he insisted that Syria's participation in negotiations was necessary. What is your opinion?

[Mubarak] I am not against Syrian participation. If I felt that this would lead to an end to the crisis, I would shake King Hassan's hands for his proposal.

[Seale] But the proposal you offered to Washington does not include the Syrians.
[Mubarak] The Syrians have a cause which is the Golan Heights. When we were talking to the Israelis on Sinai, they agreed to enter negotiations on the Golan Heights on the same bases. I believe there is no problem about reaching a solution on the Golan Heights with the Israelis.

[Seale] But from the start, you don't believe that Syria's participation in negotiations is necessary.
[Mubarak] At the beginning, we were trying to negotiate on the problems of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip which, prior to the 1967 war, were under the Jordanian and the Egyptian administrations respectively. I believe we must begin with these two regions. If the Syrians wish to be included in negotiations, we will have no objections to that because Syria is an Arab country.

[Seale] The Syrians have made it quite clear that they totally object to any relations between Arabs and Israel. They destroyed the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. Do you think it is wise for Jordan to negotiate with Israel?
[Mubarak] Why shouldn't it?

[Seale] Do you think that King Husayn should defy the Syrians?
[Mubarak] I am not asking him to put aside the Syrians. However, he should follow his interests and move toward peace.

[Seale] Despite the Syrian objection?
[Mubarak] Syria will object, but we know our way. Even if you objected, it would not matter if I knew that I am following the best path and I should try it.

[Seale] Will your problems with Reagan affect your relations with Israel?
[Mubarak] I believe we have held very important dialogue with the Israelis, which is the only way through which we will be cognizant of the best methods for achieving progress. I believe that the government of Shim'on Peres is trying its best and I hope we can reach agreement on most of the differences between us.

[Seale] Do you believe that the present Israeli Government can enter into negotiations without leading it to disintegration?
[Mubarak] Why not? Peace is the aim of all. It is the aim of Israel the Egyptians, and the Arabs. We all want to develop our countries instead of wasting our resources on wars and bloodshed.

[Seale] The Likud has announced that it will not surrender a handful of territory and that it will have the government removed if it offers territory concessions.
[Mubarak] We know the Likud. Begin used to say as much. Despite that we regained the Sinai and signed a peace agreement. Of course, the Israelis will say that they will not surrender a handul of territory. However, in my opinion, the best thing is to begin negotiations.

Coverage of Reaction to Mubarak's U.S. Visit

AL-AHALI on Results

PM161603 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 13 Mar 85 p 1

[Editorial: "The U.S. Trip and the Economic Crisis"]

[Text] Before his arrival in Washington President Mubarak described his mission as "difficult with no guarantee that he would succeed completely in persuading the United States to respond to his plans." Reports from Washington indicate that the early results of the visit are quite negative, whether in connection with the Egyptian requests or in connection with the Arab-Israeli conflict. Such results should surprise no one. The Egyptian so-called open-door policy pursued by Al-Sadat after the 1973 war has rendered the Egyptian economy unproductive and dependent on foreign sources, such as foreign aid, transfers of Egyptians abroad, and oil and Suez Canal revenues, completely neglecting industry and agriculture, with the result that consumption rose 20 percent more than production. All that has, in practical terms, made the Egyptian economy a subservient economy.

Despite the efforts made over the past 3 years, Egypt has become, after all these years, more subservient to the United States. Egypt has been left with no political option other than waiting for U.S. decisions. The United States, confident that the ruling classes and forces are incapable of introducing political changes or finding alternatives, began to respond only partially to Egyptian requests, and Egypt's dependence on U.S. aid, which does not solve the grinding economic problems, has been increasing every year. As it began to need the United States so vitally, Egypt lost its ability to play any effective role relating to the Middle East crisis or the Palestinian cause in the interest of the Arab nation. Since Egypt wants U.S. money and arms, it cannot persuade the United States to recognize the PLO and deal with it, and it cannot force the United States to put pressure on Israel, particularly since President Mubarak's initiative has been rejected at the Palestinian and Arab levels.

The question is this: Is there a way out of this whirlpool of dependence on and subservience to the United States?

There certainly is more than one way. Years ago the NPUG offered clear alternative policies based on self-reliance and austerity for those who can afford austerity. In the coming days we will submit new proposals modifying these policies in the light of the new economic and political changes. It remains for the government to learn the lesson of the U.S. trip and to demonstrate a real desire to save Egypt's economy and independence.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Views Outcome

NC170826 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 17 Mar 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Mubarak's Message to Europe and the United States," *AL-JUMHURIYAH* writes: Some will probably ask about the immediate outcome of Mubarak's tour to

four European countries and the United States, a tour dealing with the efforts of these countries in the Middle East peace process. *AL-JUMHURIYAH* answers by saying that the posing of such questions is somehow premature. Nevertheless, we can state that the goal of Mubarak's recent tour, as well as that of Egyptian endeavors in general, with respect to the Middle East peace process and the Palestinian rights issue, is to prod influential international parties to play more active roles in accelerating this peace process.

AL-JUMHURIYAH stresses that Mubarak's tour has produced its desired impact in terms of the message Egypt wanted to convey to international parties -- that there is now a better chance than ever before to make tangible progress toward achieving an overall and lasting peace. With the 11 February Palestinian-Jordanian agreement, the Arabs laid down an appropriate basis for achieving such progress. The opportunity produced by this agreement is a golden one. Any party that wastes it by thinking this agreement inadequate is exhibiting bad judgement.

AL-JUMHURIYAH says that this message Egypt wanted to convey, has actually gotten through. This much we can tell by considering the statements made by European leaders about the peace process and their support for Mubarak's efforts in this regard.

AL-JUMHURIYAH concludes by saying: There is at least one other equally important outcome of the visit -- it broke the deadlock in the issue. The fact that Arab officials soon will be visiting Washington and U.S. officials will be coming to the Middle East is proof of this.

New Mideast Tensions Linked to Mubarak Tour

NC171454 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Bahiy al-Din Shu'ayb commentary: "We Must Preserve the Call for Peace Regardless of the Obstacles"]

[Text] The fact that the Middle East region suddenly became more tense during President Mubarak's tour of Europe and the United States attracts one's attention. At the start of his tour, intended to stimulate peace efforts and place the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement on the path toward implementation, the Gulf war escalated in an unprecedented manner, to the point where Baghdad, Tehran, and several other major towns in both countries were being bombed. During his tour, a strange dissension occurred within the ranks of Phalange Party militiamen. This dissension threatens President Amin al-Jumayyil's authority and could destroy stability and national unity in Lebanon.

Moreover, a civil war threatens Lebanon with infinite peril. Also during President Mubarak's trip, Israel carried out bestial attacks against Shi'ite villages in southern Lebanon, leaving several hundred people dead and wounded. The Israeli Government decided to adopt an iron fist policy to punish anyone who contemplated confronting its forces in southern Lebanon.

It was during his tour that the United States used its veto against a draft resolution condemning Israel's aggressive practices and its implementation of collective punishments against the people in southern Lebanon.

Whatever his political naivete, no one can consider all these tense and exciting events to be mere coincidences without a common link, or having nothing to do with President Mubarak's visit to Europe and the United States.

All of these parties have an interest in keeping the crisis unsettled, as their actions, which we have cited, and the creation of subsequent events during Mubarak's visit show.

President Mubarak has set forth his proposals for a dialogue between a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and the U.S. Administration, to be followed by a similar dialogue with Israel. If these dialogues lead to tangible results, a conference could then be convened under the UN umbrella.

When Mubarak set forth these proposals, he intended to crystallize an Arab view of a new method to settle the crisis in which the PLO -- adopting a policy of territory-in-return-for-peace in accordance with UN resolutions -- would participate.

Thus, when President Mubarak met with the French, FRG, British, Italian, and U.S. leaderships, he was trying to put them in the picture as officials who have international weight, and to think together about turning the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement into an overall plan to settle the crisis and fulfill the legitimate interests of all parties in the conflict with the guarantee of the big powers.

There is no doubt that many parties are eager to participate in putting an end to the Arab-Israeli conflict as a way to achieve stability in the region. These parties can take action through their international influence on the parties involved in the crisis and bring the views closer together.

There are, however, powers that do not want the crisis to reach a solution. A solution would threaten their interests and eventually destroy all their plans. They do not want Cairo to lead the peace march. Therefore, they kindled various fires in the region to divert attention away from the Egyptian moves to new hotbeds of tension.

Thus, we have seen Iraqi and Iranian cities struck, collective punishments meted in southern Lebanon, dispute within the Israeli Government over the area Israel must control in southern Lebanon following the withdrawal, rebellion within the Phalange Party militiamen which threatens national unity, and the U.S. veto.

These suspicious moves, however, cannot divert the advocates of peace from their original goal, for these moves will increase their determination to go forward in defending their ideas. We have sown the seeds of peace and must continue to foster them. This requires that we not give up hope and that we be vigilant about all subversive attempts made by trouble makers and rejecters of peace.

NPUG Leader on Mubarak Initiative, U.S. Visit

PM181630 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 13 Mar 85 p 7

[Unattributed report: "Khalid Muhyi al-Din, During Meeting with the Masses, Says: We Reject the Egyptian Initiative Because It Offers the United States New Concessions"]

[Excerpts] Khalid Muhyi al-Din has announced the NPUG's rejection of President Mubarak's initiative declared after the signing of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. The NPUG secretary general said that the Amman agreement is a plan of action for the promotion of a political settlement to the Palestinian problem, and we support it in that context.

He also said: The battle within the government over the economic decisions has, to a large extent, been settled.

He drew attention to the danger of pinning too many hopes on President Mubarak's visit to Washington. He emphasized that the United States, which is trying to increase international tension with its arms race policy, will never establish peace in the Middle East and has nothing to offer the Arabs except the Camp David and 17 May agreements.

He revealed that the economic report prepared by the NPUG economic experts on the subsidies issue has been sent to President Mubarak, that it would be useless to only partially use that report, and that if the government wants to benefit from our views then it should view our proposals as a whole, particularly because the aim is reform in the present circumstances.

Khalid Muhyi al-Din was speaking at his monthly meeting with the masses organized by the NPUG Cairo Secretariat on the first Wednesday of each month.

Referring to the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, the secretary general said that no one can reject the principles on which the agreement was based, namely land for peace in accordance with UN resolutions and self-determination for the Palestinians within the framework of an international conference to be attended by the parties to the conflict, including the PLO, and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. He added that Jordan announced the agreement without the Palestinian interpretation, and that prompted the PLO to issue a statement explaining its final position.

Muhyi al-Din pointed out that the objections to the agreement were the result of attempts to interpret it in Israel's favor. One such interpretation, he said, was contained in President Mubarak's initiative, which calls for direct negotiations with Jordan and a Palestinian delegation excluding the PLO which is supposed to have the first and last word on the Palestinian question. The Palestinian objections to Mubarak's initiative constitute a rejection of that initiative.

He added that the Egyptian initiative, which reminds us of Camp David, came a few days before Mubarak's visit to Washington as an attempt to please the United States and Israel without prior consultation with the main party, which is the Palestinians.

The Egyptian initiative is a concession, he said, but it will not prompt the other parties to change their positions. Instead, he added, it will whet their appetite for more concessions, particularly because of Egypt's weak negotiating position and the general imbalance of power between the Arabs and Israel.

Khalid Muhyi al-Din continued: Egypt is conceding something which is not its to concede. It is also too weak to negotiate with the United States or pressure it to change its attitude. It goes to Washington for more U.S. aid. The United States, which could not implement the Reagan initiative because of Israel's rejection, has no solution for the region outside the context of the Camp David and 17 May agreements.

Muhyi al-Din pointed out that the alternative to complete reliance on the United States is a unified Arab political position on the Palestinian question based on the Fes plan. He said that the claim that the military balance of power in the region is not in the Arabs' favor is false. The fact that the so-called moderate states, such as Jordan and Kuwait, are diversifying their sources of arms and seeking arms from the Soviet Union, which has already rearmed Syria, has actually created a balance of power between us and Israel. The United States will never arm the Arabs. All that is needed is a unified Arab will to use political, economic, and military means to pressure the other sides and tip the balance of power in favor of the Arabs.

Laughing, Khalid Muhyi al-Din said: Those who think that they can change Washington's attitude with logic and reason are deluding themselves. If logic and reason could change an attitude the NPUG would have been in power a long time ago. It all depends on balances of power.

The secretary general stressed that the NPUG does not reject a peaceful settlement, but it lays down conditions for the success of such a settlement, including real independence for the Arab region, its exclusion from the international spheres of subservience and polarization, a strong economy, and arms diversification. The fulfillment of the Arab Fes peace plan, he said, requires long and hard struggle. We must look for an alternative Egyptian and Arab security that is detached from Washington. If Mubarak had sought my advice I would have told him not to go to Washington, because Washington has nothing political or economic to give us and is itself full of problems.

At the end of the meeting the secretary general answered citizens' questions.

Asked about the NPUG attitude to the Syrian-Palestinian dispute, he said: We support Syria's steadfastness against Israel and oppose its interferences in PLO affairs.

In reply to a question about Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, he said: The NPUG has called for the withdrawal of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan.

Assembly Speaker Leaves for London, Washington
NC170929 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0845 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Cairo, 17 Mar (MENA) — Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, People's Assembly speaker, and Dr Muhammad 'Abd al-Ilah, chairman of the assembly's Foreign Relations Committee, left Cairo for London this morning on a 5-day visit to the United Kingdom.

In a predeparture statement, Dr al-Mahjub said that during the visit he will hold talks with UK Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe, other secretaries, and members of the House of Commons. These talks will deal with ways to further the peace efforts aimed at solving the Middle East problem and measures to bolster bilateral relations.

The People's Assembly speaker said that after his visit to the United Kingdom he will fly to Washington for a 6-day visit. While there, he will attend a conference on public policy and meet with Congressmen and other U.S. officials.

Dr Muhammad 'Abd al-Ilah is scheduled to head an Egyptian parliamentary delegation to Togo to attend an international parliamentary conference due to open on 23 March.

'Text' of Saddam Message to India's Gandhi

JN181651 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Mar 85

["Text" of message from President Saddam Husayn to Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on 17 March 1985]

[Text] Your Excellency: We received your message dated 14 March 1985. While appreciating your concern over the conflict and the heavy losses in lives and property entailed by it, I would like to emphasize to you that, since the eruption of the conflict with Iran, Iraq has agreed to halt military operations and to solve the conflict peacefully. Iraq cooperated sincerely toward this end and responded both quickly and constructively to all sincere attempts in this regard, including the Nonaligned Movement's attempts and appeals. As you know, too, Iraq immediately agreed to the appeal by Mrs Indira Gandhi at the seventh nonaligned summit conference to stop the war. Meanwhile, Iran rejected that appeal and continued the war.

Regarding the recent escalation of the war, it is Iran which is responsible for this escalation through its violation of the 12 June 1984 agreement and its bombardment of Basra on the 5th of this month under various baseless pretexts. This violation was a prelude to launching a new aggression on Iraqi territories — an aggression that was actually carried out on 12 March and that is still going on. We explained all these facts in our foreign minister's message to the UN secretary general on 10 March 1985, which was circulated as one of the UN Security Council documents. In that message we warned of Iran's intentions to launch a new aggression on Iraq after massing large forces in the border cities. This expectation actually materialized, as Iran exploited the new circumstances it deliberately created by launching its aggression on Iraqi territories on 12 March 1985.

We would like to emphasize to you that Iraq wishes to halt the military operations and reach a comprehensive, just, and honorable solution to the conflict. We believe that effective and swift steps should be taken toward this end and that the attacking of purely civilian targets, which Iran began, should be viewed from the perspective of the urgent need to find a comprehensive solution to the conflict. Iraq is ready to adopt all suitable steps that lead to this solution, including a cessation of the bombardment of purely civilian targets if Iran abides by this and expresses its desire to solve the conflict on peaceful and just bases in accordance with the principles of the Nonaligned Movement, the UN Charter, and international law.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic of Iraq

Mubarak, Husayn Arrive for Talks With Saddam

JN190627 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of the Arab Republic of Egypt arrived in Baghdad yesterday evening on an official visit to Iraq. President Saddam Husayn led those who received His Majesty King Husayn and his excellency the Egyptian president. They were also received by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Staff General 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, minister of state for military affairs; the president's secretary; Taha Ibrahim al-'Abdallah, acting chief of the president's office; and a number of officials. After a short rest in the grand reception hall, cordial remarks were exchanged. The president then accompanied his guests in a motorcade to their place of residence.

His Majesty King Husayn is accompanied by a delegation comprising Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Court; and Zayd ibn Shakir, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces. President Mubarak was accompanied by a delegation comprising Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, the foreign minister; Safwat al-Sharif, the information minister; Major General Ahmad Rushdi, the interior minister; Engineer Sulayman Mutawalli, minister of transportation and communications.

President Saddam Husyan and his guests, His Majesty King Husayn and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, held a meeting attended by the members of the two accompanying delegations. President Husni Mubarak and His Majesty King Husayn expressed their solidarity, as well as that of the Arab peoples of Egypt and Jordan, with Iraq and their complete support for it in the just battle it is waging in defense of sovereignty and dignity and in order to preserve Arab land and rights.

President Saddam Husayn expressed his deep gratitude for his brothers, His Majesty King Husayn and President Husni Mubarak, and his pride in this visit, which affirms the genuine pan-Arab stands of President Mubarak and His Majesty King Husayn and strengthens the principles of Arab brotherhood and solidarity. The president briefed his brothers, His Majesty King Husayn and President Husni Mubarak, on the situation on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland and the victories the Iraqi Army has realized against the latest Iranian aggression, which was the greatest and most threatening aggressive attack in the history of the war. The talks, which lasted for more than 4 hours, reviewed the strong fraternal ties among Iraq, Egypt, and Jordan. The three leaders also dealt with the Arab situation. They stressed the need to work to strengthen Arab solidarity and joint action in order to confront the difficulties that face the Arab nation.

Talks were attended on the Iraqi side by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Staff General 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, minister of state for military affairs; Dr Taha Ibrahim al-'Abdallah, acting chief of the president's office; and the president's secretary.

Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and His Majesty King Husayn of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, left Baghdad last night after a short visit to Iraq. President Saddam Husayn led those who saw off his guests, His Majesty King Husayn and President Husni Mubarak. Also present at the send-off ceremony were Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Staff General 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, minister of state for military affairs; Dr Taha Ibrahim al-'Abdallah, acting chief of the president's office; the president's secretary; a number

of officials; the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad; and the chief of the Egyptian interests office in Baghdad.

In a statement to the press, President Saddam Husayn expressed the hope that the Arab brothers and their leaders will have fraternal, good relations in order to serve the Arab nation. In a comment, His Majesty King Husayn expressed his deep satisfaction on visiting Iraq to be reassured on the battle developments on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland.

The following are texts of press statements of President Saddam Husyan, King Husyan, and President Mubarak:

Question: President Saddam Husayn, what topics were discussed in this summit?

Answer: Naturally when brothers meet they discuss their issues and the problems of the Arab homeland. We discussed fraternal relations among us as brothers and the various problems in the Arab homeland with all its difficulties and pains.

Question: Undoubtedly the talks dealt with developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war and evaluated the Arab moves, means of activating the Palestinian problem, and the results of President Mubarak's talks during his U.S. and European tours?

Answer: The most important thing that has been discussed was our fraternal relations as three Arabs: Saddam, Husni, and King Husayn; as presidents and kings: Saddam, President Husni, and His Majesty King Husayn; and as three states. This classification does not mean that we are placing our peoples or states in a third class [sentence as heard], but to say that the basic thing is to build trust through which great good may come, whether for the Egyptian people, the Jordanian people, or the Iraqi people who are vital parts of the Arab nation.

Question: What message can we present to the Arab world after this Baghdad summit?

Answer: We wish that the Arab brothers and the brother Arab leaders will have fraternal, good relations in order to serve the Arab nation.

Question: After this historic, important meeting, do you think that this will be a step toward restoring ties between Egypt and Iraq?

Answer: The basic step in ties is in our hearts and consciences. Realtions between Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, and any nation are not defined by official formulas. Can you not see that relations between us now are fraternal? You know, the great Egyptian people know, and brother President Husni Mubarak knows that our relations with Egypt are stronger and higher than all the administrative levels that we can speak about. They are based on ties among sons of the same nation. They are based on joined ideas on the same pan-Arab fate.

Question: Is the situation on the front reassuring?

Answer: Thank God. It is not only reassuring but excellent.

Question: We heard about fraternal Iraq's great victory. Can Your Excellency say a few words with which we can reassure the Arab peoples?

Answer: Ten Iranian divisions crossed into our territory. You can direct a question to Iran as to their number.

Question: Can His Majesty King Husayn make any comment on this occasion?

[King Husayn] Thank God for being a participant in this meeting with dear brothers. This visit allowed me to be reassured that [word indistinct] as we expected them as a result of the results of the victorious battles and to return as we returned on previous occasions. For me personally, I am very reassured and satisfied with the steadfastness of the brothers on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland.

Question: Can His Excellency President Mubarak comment on this visit?

[President Mubarak] I believe the best comment on this visit is our meeting with our brother and dear friend Saddam Husayn, the president of the Iraqi people, who are the brothers of the Egyptian people and who are dear to them. This is the best and strongest comment I can make.

President Saddam Husayn held a banquet in honor of His Majesty King Husayn and President Husni Mubarak and their delegations last night. It was attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Staff General 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, minister of state for military affairs; Dr Taha Ibrahim al-'Abdallah, acting chief of the president's office; the president's secretary; and a number of officials.

Taha Yasin Ramadan, Cuban Minister Confer

JN181849 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1540 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Mar (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, met with Cuban Construction Minister [title as received] Levi Farah at noon today. The Cuban minister conveyed to Taha Yasin Ramadan his country's desire to continue cooperating with Iraq in a way that serves the joint interests of the peoples of the two friendly countries. They also reviewed bilateral relations and ways of bolstering them.

'Aziz, Indian Foreign Ministry Official Confer

JN181848 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1535 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Mar (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with Indian Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Venkateswaran here today. Talks dealt with the current situation in view of the Iranian aggression on Iraq.

The foreign minister stressed Iraq's firm adherence to reaching a comprehensive peace on the basis of the UN Charter and the principles of the Nonaligned Movement and international law.

The Indian Foreign Ministry under secretary arrived here last night.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

Tehran, Kashan, Khorramabad Raided

JN181515 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

So that the Tehran rulers realize that any harm inflicted on Iraq's territory or any of its cities will turn into a disaster afflicting them and that they will pay its price immediately, our Air Force planes raided selected targets in Tehran, Kashan, and Khorramabad at 1700 [1400 GMT] today. After hitting their targets accurately, leaving the Khomeyniites' cries ringing out in increasing bitterness, our valiant hawks returned safe and triumphant with their aircraft, promising to return in order to penetrate deep inside Iran time after time until the Khomeyniites realize what they can do. Is is God who grants success.

[Dated] 18 March 1985

Helicopters Inflict Further Losses

JN181624 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1616 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The valiant Army helicopter cavaliers have pursued the defeated Khomeyniite remnants in 102 sorties and managed to destroy 19 boats, 8 antiaircraft machine guns, 1 infantry position, 4 enemy hideouts, 6 rocket launchers, and several hardware stockpiles. They returned safely with their aircraft, praise be to God.

[Dated] 18 March 1985

Jets Fly 259 Missions

JN181632 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1618 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

In order not to give the aggressor Khomeyniites a chance to escape into Iran and in order to inflict maximum losses on the enemy personnel and equipment, our Air Force planes continued to pursue the enemy in 259 combat missions. They managed to inflict massive losses in personnel and equipment. Our planes returned safely to base under God's protection.

[Dated] 18 March 1985

Communique No 1,775

JN181754 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Communique No 1,775 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 18 Mar 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

God made it but a message of hope for you and an assurance to your hearts; in any case there is no help except from God, the exalted, the wise. [Koranic verse]

O glorious Iraqi men, O glorious Iraqi women, wherever you are in the fields of construction; O valiant officers of our Armed Forces; O brave soldiers wherever you are in the fields of honorable fighting; O protectors of the homeland's pride, honor, land, and water; O people and soldiers of Saddam Husayn — and our Saddam has a right to boast of you — it is your great day. You have promised and fulfilled your promise. You have safeguarded the trust and defeated treason. You have given what none before you has given and what none after you will give. You have not only fought, but also taught the whole world how fighting should be. You have not only built what is good, but you have also given a magnificent example on what the edifice should be. You have been patient on the day of hardship until God rewarded you with what He rewards the patient in the form of splendid victory, guidance, and delight.

O Iraqis, history will record this blessed day with reverence. History is now roaming your streets and villages and looking over your trenches. Time once again yields to the Arab nation and Iraq reassumes its role in building a world permeated by justice and the banners of freedom — a world where peace rests in the consciences of its people. O Iraqis, you have torn up the remnants of barbarism which the Iranian rulers threw in out of the sickness of grudge in their hearts against our people in the past, present, and future, as well as out of their ambitions and indignation against our development and progress. The Tehran rulers have been preparing for this battle since their aggression was crushed in February 1984. They mobilized all their remaining defeated units and equipment. Nor did they forget to consult the leaders of Zionism and their petty Arab agents when they planned this battle. The ignorant Iranian rulers imagined we were unaware of their real intentions. They tried to conceal these intentions by maneuvering with their units here and there. Those idiots did not know that we were closer to them their own veins and that we, out of our experience with them, probe their minds and read what their evil souls harbor.

Our great leader Saddam Husayn, may God protect him, diagnosed and fixed in advance the directions of enemy movement and the aims of every single page of the battle plan drawn up by the enemy. The results completely matched this development. Moreover, the leader president drew up the details of the deterrent plan in such a manner that the result will not be a victory for Iraq in one battle only, but also a strategic victory that finally settles the war in favor of Iraq. Since the enemy launched its treacherous aggression on the night of 11/12 March and until the moments of decisive victory, your leader, O Iraqis, has been following up the accomplishments of his officers and soldiers

moment by moment, running the battle with his sound directives. O proud Iraqis, honesty makes it incumbent on us in these blessed hours to confirm facts to both history and generations and to record to the heroes of the battle their valor, wisdom, and efforts.

Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces and defense minister, led the battle on the field and supervised its progress. He was assisted in the field operations by Staff Lieutenant General 'Abd al-Jawad Dhannun, Armed Forces chief of staff. Staff Major General Hisham Sabah al-Fakhri, Armed Forces assistant chief of staff for operations, supervised the left flank and participated in conducting the war operations. Staff Major General Sa'di Tu'mah 'Abbas, Armed Forces assistant chief of staff for training, supervised the right flank and participated in conducting war operations. The victorious forces of the East Tigris operational sector carried out their activities under the command of Staff Major General Sultan Qasim Ahmad.

As for the forces which performed combat missions, they were as follows:

1. The presidential guard division: This heroic division under the command of Staff Major General Tali' Khalil al-Duri assumed the major burden in this honorable battle. It succeeded in purging the area from Lisan ('Ujarid) in the north to Al-Rawtah in the south. This division's valiant formations carried out a splendid combat role and stormed enemy positions with unique courage.

These formations are the following: the 10th Armored Brigade under the command of Staff Colonel Ibrahim 'Abd al-Sattar; the 2d Armored Brigade under the command of Staff Colonel Ahmad Ibrahim Hammad; the 42d Armored Brigade under the command of Staff Colonel Muhan Hafiz Fahd; the 702d Infantry Brigade under the command of Staff Colonel Azhar Sa'allah al-Khalil; the 4th Brigade under the command of Staff Brigadier General Khadr 'Ali Nassar; the presidential guard emergency force under the command of Staff Colonel Nasir Sa'id Tawfiq; the 2d Shock Troops Brigade under the command of Colonel 'Ali Husayn Qazim.

2. The 3d Armored Division: This division waged a heroic battle under the command of Staff Brigadier General Iyad al-Futayyih al-Rawi. It succeeded in purging the area from Lisan ('Ujarid) to Al-Rawtah area.

The following formations carried out the heroic battles: the 16th Armored Brigade under the command of Staff Colonel Dardar 'Abd al-Majid Rashid; the 25th Merchanized Infantry Brigade under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Mundhir Ahmad Muhammad; the 18th Infantry Brigade under the command of Staff Colonel Sabah 'Adil Dawud;

3. The command of the forces defending Basra under the command of Staff Brigadier General Ihsan Kamil al-Sharif: This division [as heard] carried out the duty of purging Al-Humayun with the participation of formations from the 6th Armored Division. It also protected the flanks of our advancing forces. The formations of this division are the following: the 65th Special Forces Brigade under the command of Staff Major General 'Abbas Miz'il; the 1st Shock Forces Brigade attached to the IV Army Corps under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Hashim Muhammad 'Abd al-Rahman; the 93d Infantry Brigade under the command of Staff Brigadier General Ibrahim Muhammad Jasim.

4. The 10th Armored Division Command: This hero division under the command of Staff Major General Sabih 'Umran al-Tarfah purged the area from Lisan ('Ujarid) to Al-Sakhrah. The formations of this heroic division are the following: the 17th Armored Brigade under the command of Staff Colonel Yasin Fulayyih Khalaf; the 24th Mechanized Infantry Brigade under the command of Staff Brigadier General Natik Jasim al-Mandhir; the 3d Special Forces Brigade belonging to the presidential guard under the command of Staff Colonel 'Abd al-Atif Muhammad Sa'id; the 68th Special Forces Brigade under the command of Staff Colonel Husayn 'Ali Sa'id; the 27th Brigade under the command of Staff Lieutenant Colonel Sa'd Raddam; the 29th Brigade under the command of Colonel Muhammad Rajan 'Abd al-'Aziz; the 5th Brigade under the command of Staff Colonel Salim Jamil Dhannun; the 66th Special Forces Brigade under the command of Wa'dallah Mustafa Hannush.

5. The 35th Division commanded by Brigadier General Faysal Mish'al al-Faysal mopped up the Al-Baydah area with the efforts of the 429th Brigade under the command of Brigadier General Anwar 'Abd al-Hamid Musa.

6. The 5th Divison: This division, under the command of Staff Brigadier General 'Ali Jasim Muhammad al-Hayyan, repulsed and completely crushed the enemy forces west of the Tigris. The formations of this division are: the 20th Brigade commanded by Staff Colonel Mu'ayyad Ahmad al-Mahdi, the 19th Brigade commanded by Colonel Fawzi Jawad Hadi, and the 30th Armored Brigade commanded by Staff Colonel Qays 'Abd al-Razzaq Jawad al-a'Zami.

7. The Popular Army fighters — comrades of creed and arms and backers of our Armed Forces — from the third Maysan sector under the command of Comrade 'Alwan Shihab participated in defending Iraq's territory.

8. The 4th Division: This division mopped up important areas on the edge of the marshes. It was commanded by Staff Brigadier General 'Abd al-Karim Mahmud al-'Isawi.

O citizens, O sons of our great people, you have lived the battle in all its details. You have followed the General Command's daily communiques and statements. You have been proud of the splendid accomplishments of the Air Force and its great hawks when they flew and are still flying over the heads of the Khomeyniites in the farthest areas in Iran. In the meantime, these hawks poured their fire on the Khomeyniite forces in hundreds of sorties every day — sorties unprecedented in the history of warfare. They carried out their duty in the best way, buried the aggressors in their positions, tore up their equipment, and chased them everywhere. It is just that you should now know the name of every one of our hawks but, praise be God, they are many and you will know them in due time. May God bless them.

O citizens, you also remember the bold and brave attacks by the valiant helicopter cavaliers who unerringly hit every enemy bridge, crossing point, position, hideout, and boat. May God bless the helicopter cavaliers.

O Iraqi citizens, this battle has decisively settled the war in favor of justice and its people, in favor of Iraq and its people. All the credit for this splendid victory goes to our martyrs, whose souls are now fluttering around us with joy over God's satisfaction and proud of their pure blood which wetted the earth so that Iraq can continue to exist. May God have mercy on them and make paradise their abode. O glorious Iraqi men and women, the result of this battle is the outcome of coordinated efforts and fighting. Blessed be your victory and may you be always happy. Proceed under the banner of President Saddam Husayn, leader and lover of all. Our last prayer is: Praise be to God, lord of the worlds.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 March 1985

30,800 Iranians Killed

JN181917 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Hawr al-Hawizah, southern Iraq, 18 Mar (INA) — A military source at the field command of the southern operations area has announced that the number of Iranians killed during the past 7 days of battle is estimated at 30,800. The source told an INA correspondent in the area today that the number of Iranians wounded in these battles is triple the number of dead, in addition to very large numbers of prisoners of war. The Iraqi military source added that Iranian military commanders know the extent of their losses in the rear because they know what the Iraqi fighter planes and helicopters did to the supply and support lines and the Iranian troop assembly points in the rear. He emphasized that the next few days will reveal the massive Iranian human and material losses when the Iranians concerned study the results of the battle, for which they have prepared for over a year to be the final, decisive battle.

Downing of Planes Denied

JN181955 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1940 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Mar (INA) — Iraq has denied Iranian allegations that four Iraqi aircraft were downed. An Iraqi military source told INA that these allegations are absolutely baseless. All fighter planes and helicopters returned safely to base after scoring accurate hits on their targets. The source said the allegations were made to cover up the Iranian forces' ugly defeat in the Hawr al-Hawizah battle. He called on the Iranian regime to verify these allegations and to exhibit anything that proves them. Tehran radio in Persian said in its newscast this evening that its aircraft and air defenses had shot down four Iraqi planes raiding Tehran and other Iranian cities.

Chief of Staff Comments

JN190822 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0623 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Mar (INA) — Army Chief of Staff General 'Abd al-Jawad Dhunnun has announced that the Iraqi forces have completely ended the Iranian offensive in Hawr al-Hawizah both in the marshes and on dry land. In a statement to *AL-JUMHURIYAH* today, he explained that crushing the Iranian aggression was carried out in two stages and under the direct guidance of President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the Armed Forces. He said that the first stage aimed at tackling the Iranian penetration of Iraqi defenses by repelling and stopping it. The second stage aimed at diminishing the penetrated area, ending it, and destroying the enemy that was present on Iraqi territory and waters.

He affirmed that both stages were carried out with extreme courage and outstanding performance by the commanders, officers, and fighters and resulted in the regions of (Al-'Ujaridi), Al-Baydah, Al-Sakhrah, (Al-Rushaydah), Al-Rawtah, and all the Al-Hawizah waters being purged. He said that the enormous Iranian losses affirm that the war will end in Iraq's favor. He added that the coming days will reveal the extent of Iranian losses and affirm that this battle will be the end of the war and the true beginning of peace.

Iranian Military Units 'Annihilated'

NC191036 Baghdad in Persian to Iran 0600 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Dear Iranian brothers, sisters, and all those who have children or relatives at the front: Ask the Khomeyni regime where your children and relatives are who served in the following units. Demand that this regime inform you about the fate of your youths.

We will now list the divisions and brigades that were completely annihilated, their men killed:

1. The (?Naft) Division — Revolution Guards.
2. The 7th Vali 'Asr Division — Revolution Guards.
3. The 14th Hoseyn Division — Revolution Guards.
4. The 25th Karbala Division — Revolution Guards.
5. The 31st 'Ashura Division — Revolution Guards.
6. The 41st Sarollah Division — Revolution Guards.
7. The (Ghadir) Brigade of the Qods Divsion — Revolution Guards.
8. One brigade of the Mohammad Rasul Allah Division — Revolution Guards.
9. The Qamar-e Bani Hashem Brigade of the 3d Saheb ol-Zaman Division — Revolution Guards.
10. The Sajjad Brigade of the 19th Fajr Division.
11. The 57th Abolfazl Brigade — Revolution Guards.
12. The independent Shohada Brigade — Revolution Guards.
13. The Borujerd Brigade — Revolution Guards.
14. One brigade of the 8th Najaf Division — Revolution Guards.

15. The Esfahan Brigade — Revolution Guards.
16. The Yazd Brigade — Revolution Guards.
17. The Zolfaqar Brigade — Revolution Guards.
18. The 55th Parachute Brigade.
19. The 1st Brigade of the 23d Division of Special Forces.
20. The 1st Infantry Brigade of the 28th Infantry Division.
21. The 2d Infantry Brigade of the 21st Division.
22. The independent coastal battalion.

O Iranian families: These are the divisions and brigades that were completely annihilated during recent operations in the marshes. Ask Khomeyni's warmongering regime where your youths are! [martial music]

Commanders on Recent Battles

JN190917 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0720 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Mar (INA) — In press statements today, Iraqi military commanders gave new details of the decisive battle in Hawr al-Hawizah.

Chief of Staff General 'Abd al-Jawwad Dhunnun said that the commanders and officers were vying with each other to destroy the aggressors as fast as possible. He said that the plan to pounce on the enemy from all sides was perfectly implemented and achieved excellent results, inflicting massive losses in enemy personnel, equipment, and supplies.

Major General Hisham Sabah al-Fakhri, the field commander of Hawr al-Hawizah operations, said that the Iranian forces fell between the two jaws of an Iraqi pincer, adding that the battle was decided yesterday morning when the northern Iraqi columns met with the southern columns, sweeping away the Iranian forces. He affirmed that the massive Iranian losses will greatly affect their military strength because all their forces were either killed, wounded, or captured.

The chief of military intelligence said that the Iranian forces at first tried to reach the highway connecting Basra and Al-'Amarah in an attempt to isolate one city from the other. He said that the Iranians had prepared their aggression for more than a year, preparing the operations theater in the marshes in a way that would enable them to realize their evil designs. He noted that the Iraqi military command had known all about the enemy's preparations and had been preparing to confront them before they could complete their preparations, which we monitored carefully.

The chief of military intelligence also said that Iraq's military action has foiled the Iranian schemes and robbed them of the element of surprise. The Iraqi forces destroyed the aggressors in historic battles in which the Iraqi fighters' will, manhood, and vehemence were demonstrated. He added that coordination among all the Iraqi forces' arms was so perfect that the Iranian losses were doubled.

Major General Sultan Hashim, commander of the east of Tigris operations, said that the Iranian forces at first tried to separate the III Army Corps command from the IV Army Corps command and to cut off the road between Al-'Uzayr and Al-Qurnah, east of Basra.

He pointed out that the enemy was intending to increase its moves in the north and the south.

However, the Iraqi forces' prognosis of the enemy movements and main directions helped them draw up plans to foil enemy schemes and destroy its forces. He noted that the Iraqi forces' plans were implemented in an impeccable manner. The Iraqi soldiers fought epoch-making battles that differed from previous battles because of the nature of the terrain.

5 Iranian Cities Raided

JN190838 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0824 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

In implementation of our unchanging decision to destroy selected targets inside Iran until the Iranian rulers desist from attacking our territory and cities, renounce the policy of aggression, and agree to end the war completely, our Air Force planes carried out raids on selected targets in the Iranian cities of Bushehr, Hamadan, Ardabil, Garang, and Khorramabad at 1000 [0700 GMT] today.

After accurately pounding their targets, our planes returned safely to base. Praise be to God.

We warn the Iranian rulers, from a position of strength that they perfectly realize — a position which was confirmed by the recent east of Tigris battles — that we will continue to hammer their heads until they accept peace or hit their heads against the wall. Success comes from God.

[Dated] 19 March 1985

Reportage on Husayn-Mubarak Talks, Trip to Baghdad

Leaders Depart for Baghdad

JN181630 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak left Amman for Baghdad this afternoon on a short working visit, during which they will meet with His Excellency Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to discuss the latest developments in the situation on the Iraqi front, as well as other important Arab issues. They were seen off at the airport by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan; Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah; Sulayman 'Arar, deputy prime minister and interior minister; the ministers, the Jordanian ambassador in Cairo, and the Egyptian ambassador in Amman. Leaving with King Husayn were Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, and Staff General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

Answering reporters' questions at the airport about his talks with His Excellency President Mubarak, His Majesty King Husayn said: It is one march and one line. We hope we will follow up our causes in a satisfactory way. President Muhammad Husni Mubarak said: My visit to the United States and Europe was aimed at providing momentum to the peace process on the basis of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, which is now considered a cornerstone and which we have long awaited. I also explained to the U.S. Administration the Arab viewpoint and I stressed the need for a PLO representation in any future peace talks. He added: It is necessary to continue dialogue with the United States in order to reach positive results.

Following the two leaders' departure, Tahir Hikmat, minister of culture, tourism, and antiquities and acting information minister, said: This meeting between the two great leaders falls within their series of meetings to hold consultations on all issues of common interest, especially pressing issues that the Arab nation is facing at this time. The meeting was also an occasion for us to review the results of President Mubarak's U.S. and European tour. The two leaders exchanged views and discussed ways to strengthen relations between the two fraternal countries.

More on Baghdad Trip

JN190713 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 19 Mar 85 p 1

[By Lamis K. Andoni, *JORDAN TIMES* staff reporter]

[Excerpts] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak held three hours of talks in Amman Monday and flew to Baghdad where they held an urgent meeting with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn on the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war in the light of the recent escalation of fighting along the battlefront. President Mubarak arrived in Amman noon Monday and held talks with the king on results of his recent visit to Washington where he was faced with an American reluctance to accept his proposals for direct talks between the American administration and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

Well-informed sources told the *JORDAN TIMES* that during the talks Mr. Mubarak gave "a more positive image" than the one that has been so far projected regarding the American position on his proposals and on the Jordan-PLO accord. The sources said that President Mubarak told the Jordanian Government that the U.S. administration "has shown more flexibility" concerning the Arab point of view on finding a peaceful settlement for the Palestinian quesion.

The surprise departure of both leaders to Baghdad, in about three hours after President Mubarak's arrival in Amman, has managed to shift the focus from the main goal of the visit to discuss Jordanian-Egyptian coordinate efforts to find a peaceful settlement to the Palestinian question based on a joint accord reached on Feb. 11 between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Diplomatic sources quoted by REUTER said King Husayn and President Mubarak would hold urgent talks with President Husayn on ending the Iran-Iraq war. The significance of the two leaders' visit to Baghdad lies in its timing, as well as in the fact that it marked the first visit ever by an Egyptian president to Iraq since the signing of the American-sponsored Camp David peace accord between Israel and Egypt in 1979.,

Despite the non-existence of formal diplomatic ties between Egypt and Iraq, the Egyptian Government has been offering both logistic and material support for Iraq in its war against Iran ever since President Mubarak succeeded late Anwar al-Sadat in 1981.

Husayn Returns From Baghdad

JN190811 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn returned to the homeland last night after he and Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak paid a short fraternal working visit to fraternal Iraq during which they held talks with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. During the tripartite summit, they discussed the latest developments on the Iraqi front.

His Excellency Iraqi President Saddam Husayn acquainted His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency President Mubarak with the firm Iraqi military position and the victory the Iraqi forces achieved in repelling the Iranian aggression in the latest battles.

His Majesty King Husayn and President Mubarak confirmed the need for Arab solidarity with Iraq, which is waging a just war in the defense of its territory and the dignity of its nation.

Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, and General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, returned with His Majesty King Husayn. His Highness Prince Muhammad, King Husayn's personal representative; His Highness Crown Prince Hasan; Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah; Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd; and Raja'i al-Dajani, secretary general of the Royal Hashemite court, received His Majesty King Husayn.

Husayn, Mubarak Statements

JN191050 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
19 Mar 85 pp 1, 21

[By Tawfiq 'Abid]

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn has described his talks with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak as deep, frank, and useful and said that they dealt with various issues to bolster joint Arab action in the interest of our cause and the service of our nation. In an exclusive statement to *SAWT AL-SHA'B*, his majesty said that President Mubarak informed him of everything that took place during his visit to the United States and his talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan and pointed to the existence of encouraging signs for achieving a just, lasting solution to the region's crisis. His Majesty King Husayn said: I am confident in the future of the nation and its issues and we must consolidate the one march in the service of our pan-Arab objectives. His majesty affirmed the necessity to bolster sincere efforts for the sake of protecting our inalienable rights and the vital interests of our nation.

In a statement to *SAWT AL-SHA'B*, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak said that he informed His Majesty King Husayn of the results of his visits to the United States, Britain, France, West Germany, and Italy concerning the Palestine question and promoting the peace process. Replying to a question, President Mubarak said that the ideas he put to senior officials in the countries he visited recently stem from the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, which is considered the cornerstone of the move for a comprehensive settlement. He pointed out that this agreement has been awaited for a long time. The president explained in his press statement that he stressed to U.S. and European officials the necessity to establish contacts with the PLO in its capacity as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Replying to another question, President Mubarak said the Americans are currently studying the ideas and proposals he put to them concerning a just, lasting solution to the Palestine question and that we are awaiting the results of the studies. The president expressed his optimism that a solution satisfactory to all the parties concerned will be reached. I believe that the outcome will be a logical one, he said.

AL-DUSTUR Comments on Tripartite Summit in Iraq

JN191006 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
19 Mar 85 pp 1, 22

[Editorial: "Iraq's Victory Is Victory for the Arabs"]

[Text] No one can doubt the significance of the visit to Iraq yesterday by His Majesty King Husayn and President Husni Mubrak and their meeting with President Saddam Husayn. It presents a picture of deep solidarity with fraternal Iraq in its valiant confrontation of the Iranian aggression.

This joint visit coincides with the Iraqi people's celebrations of the victories of their valiant Army in one of the biggest battles of the 5-year old war. It is further evidence of the strength of joint relations. The visit greatly bolsters the pan-Arab ties that combine the peoples of this nation and unite its peoples no matter how far they are separated.

The Jordanian-Egyptian-Iraqi summit indicates the depth of these ties and the firmness of the relations that unite the three Arab leaders. It affirms, especially to the Iranian aggressors, that the Arab nation stands in one trench behind Iraq's people and Army and that it is ready to exert all its capabilities in order to curb the aggression. The noble Arab picture, which was presented in Iraq yesterday both at the front, which witnessed a great victory for the Iraqi people, and in Baghdad, which hosted the meeting of the three Arab leaders, will not be affected by the continuous violation by some Arabs of the nation's will and their stabbing its consensus and unity while it is facing the dangers that surround the Arabs from all directions. Today, as we join Iraq and congratulate ourselves and all the Arabs on the great victory witnessed by the Tigris shores against the Iranian aggressors, we will not allow our joy to interrupt the call for ending this war or stop encouraging any voice that might reach the ears of the Tehran rulers to do every thing they can to stop this tragedy which has weakened the Arabs and Muslims and exhausted much of their energies.

Iraq, which has decisively proved its superiority in this war and adhered consistently to the peace option from a position of strength and ability, has the right to be congratulated today for this great victory, which is in fact a victory for all the Arabs.

Foreign Minister Al-Masri Holds News Conference

JN190659 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English
19 Mar 85 p 1

[Excerpt] Washington (Agencies) — His Majesty King Husayn might visit Washington if the United States reacts positively to the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on a formula for joint action towards settling the Palestinian problem, Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri said Monday. Mr. al-Masri, speaking at a news conference, said he was in Washington to arrange the possible visit by King Husayn and to learn the results of the visit by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak last week. Mr. Mubarak urged President Ronald Reagan's administration to realise the significance of the Jordan-PLO agreement. "We achieved something with the PLO," Mr. al-Masri told the news conference. "The PLO is talking about peaceful agreement, peaceful negotiations." The Jordan-PLO agreement means the PLO has given implicit recognition of Israel's right to exist and explicit recognition can follow if the peace process advances, Mr. al-Masri said.

"We are convinced that self-determination for the Palestinian people can exist with the principle of the acceptance of the existence of Israel," he said. "We have been positive and we expect the others to take a positive step." PLO acceptance of U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 "won't be such a problem if the PLO sees a positive response" to the Feb. 11 accord, he said.

The United States has refused to meet with the PLO until it accepts 242, under which, in exchange for peace with the Arabs, Israel would return Arab territory occupied during the 1967 war. Jordan, he said, accepts 242 and Israel's right to exist. "But Israel

is occupying Arab territory, not only the West Bank, but it is occupying other territories," Mr. al-Masri said.

"It is not a matter of recognising Israel or not recognising Israel. It is how much we can get of our land" in exchange for recognising Israel, he said.

Arab-Israeli agreement will take a number of steps and must begin with initial negotiation positions that can be modified later, he said.

"It is important to do things slowly. It's a long way and there are many wild cards."

The Jordan-PLO "agreement is starting a process in the area, a process towards peace," Mr. al-Masri said. "This process needs to be reciprocated by all parties."

The Middle East is "an area of lost opportunities," he said.

"This is an important opportunity and we hope that we will not lose it. We really believe, earnestly believe, that maybe this is the last opportunity."

Mr. al-Masri who meets Secretary of State George Shultz on Wednesday, added: "I will demand an active role for the American Government." "If we don't do anything about (the Palestinian question) the whole area will be radicalised," he said.

Mr. al-Masri said that an agreement by the United States to meet a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and a move by Israel would encourage further positive moves by the PLO. "We have been positive. We expect others to take a positive step," he said.

If Israel or the United States reciprocated the PLO move towards peace, he said, "maybe (PLO Chairman Yasir) 'Arafat can make another positive step, and so on."

He said he was preparing for a future trip to Washington by King Husayn but gave no date and indicated that it would depend on Washington's talks with other Arab leaders.

JORDAN TIMES on Need for U.S. Action in Mideast

JN190735 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 19 Mar 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Chance Is Here Today"]

[Text] A more positive picture of the U.S. stand on the Middle East is emerging, albeit slowly, following President Mubrak's visit to Jordan yesterday. "The Americans are studying our thoughts and suggestions...especially Mr. Reagan," President Mubarak said just before he left Amman for Baghdad with His Majesty the King. "I am optimistic, and I am optimistic because I am realistic."

Realism demands from Washington some kind of movement in response to the great efforts that are being exerted by Jordan, Egypt and the PLO to achieve peace. The U.S. can in no way expect from the others to do all the running for itself, since if everything was so rosy and going well no kind of clamour would be needed from Washington anyway. [sentence as published]

The positive picture that the Egyptian president has been trying to portray cannot possibly stop at a vague American promise to study the situation some more. We vividly remember Secretary of State George Shultz's words that in the Middle East "there is hardly anything left to be said about the peace process."

It is time for action, as Mr. Shultz had understood a long time ago. And he has in his hands whatever he requires for progress from the Arab side. Israel will not be delivered with a pat on the back; nor does the question of Arab-Israeli peace rest on a bridge to a gap. The Arabs call on the U.S. to assume such a vital role in the Middle East simply because they know that the road through Washington is the only viable alternative to going to war.

The U.S. needs no further proof that we are all out for peace. The State Department and the White House have all the documents they need to prove our point. But if it is a better opportunity for peace that the Americans are after, let them wait a while longer if they want that opportunity may never be. [sentence as published]

Al-Asad Invites Franjiyah To Visit Damascus

NC151545 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] [Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah has received a message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad officially inviting him to visit Damascus. The message was conveyed by Major General Sa'id Biraqdar, commander of the [Arab] Deterrent Forces in Lebanon, who met with Franjiyah in the presence of Robert Franjiyah and the commander of the deterrent forces in the north. Discussions during the meeting dealt with recent developments.

Franjiyah Leaves for Damascus

NC160740 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] Former President Sulayman Franjiyah left for Damascus this morning to hold talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and other high-ranking Syrian officials. The visit is in response to an invitation from the Syrian president.

Contacts Made for Christian-Islamic Conference

NC170617 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Amid an atmosphere of caution and anticipation resulting from the Samir Ja'ja' movement in the eastern [Christian] area, intensive consultations and contacts are continuing between Beirut and Damascus. Meanwhile, Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam is now unlikely to visit Beirut. The visit was scheduled to take place tomorrow.

Informed sources say that contacts are under way to convene a large Christian-Islamic conference comprising influential figures from both sides. The conference will adopt a unified position in the face of current developments.

It has been learned that the nucleus for this conference was formed during a meeting which took place in Damascus yesterday between former President Sulayman Franjiyah and Ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt. They are holding consultations in Damascus to contain the ramifications and consequences of the Ja'ja' movement, return the situation to normal, and continue the march toward detente and liberation.

Khaddam Postpones Visit; Junblatt Leaves For Moscow

NC180709 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] According to well-informed sources, Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam will not visit Lebanon today. A ministerial source said this was due to inappropriate local conditions. Khaddam has also become suddenly indisposed.

A ministerial source noted that the Cabinet should hold its weekly session on Wednesday. However, the ministers have not yet been notified, and Minister Junblatt left for Moscow yesterday. Meanwhile, sources close to Minister Birri say he will not go to the Presidential Palace in B'abda given the current security situation in East Beirut.

Karami Calls for Special Cabinet Session

NC181332 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The situation in the eastern part of the capital has reached a very delicate stage. This, in turn, has made it necessary to put all leaders and officials on alert to face all possible consequences stemming from any escalation of positions. This is particularly true after the decisions announced yesterday. These measures imply a threatened split of the homeland's entire structure.

These recent developments prompted the prime minister to announce today that a special Cabinet session will be held tomorrow to discuss the current situation. Events in the east will receive special attention. We have learned that the session will resume its consideration of the agreements reached at the recent meetings in Bikfayya. Chief among these was the agreement that the special powers granted to the government will lapse after 4 days.

Karami Remarks on Syria's 'Absolute Support'

NC170559 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami has been quoted as telling a delegation representing the Consultative Council in the Islamic Dar al-Ifta' that Syria has expressed its readiness to extend absolute support to the Lebanese authorities seeking to impose legitimate control over Lebanese territory. Karami said that Syrian officials asserted to him their readiness to take the initiative in implementing this support at any time fixed by the official Lebanese authority.

Karami on 'Uprising'

NC181418 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Remarks by Prime Minister Rashid Karami on developments in Eastern Beirut following his meeting with former Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam on 18 March — recorded]

[Text] Our people are talking about events in the east, which some have called an uprising and others a coup. They are also discussing the alleged private and personal causes for this, the general and Christian causes, and the talks on state establishments and the regime, particularly the Presidency. I want to be frank with the public by expressing my views on these suspicious activities, which have taken the form of press statements, news conferences, and activity in social or political clubs. The efforts of some to cover up these events with sweet words and soothing proposals will never succeed in concealing the true dimensions and implications of events. This leads me to say that only the figure behind this operation reveals its true intentions and extent.

I don't think that we would be expected to sit on the sidelines as if we weren't affected. They want to implement their ideas and plans, both old and new. They want us to return to the years of austerity, now that we have scarcely emerged from the dark tunnel into the light, amid broad hopes of delivering our homeland and ending our people's nightmare.

They talk about Christian public opinion, which they see as suppressed and representing views and opinions that are no longer heard. On behalf of Christianity in Lebanon, and perhaps Christianity abroad, they want to create a liberated Christian entity capable of making decisions and defending their interests and future. Thus, they call for the election of a parliament in their areas. They do so under the slogan of safeguarding legitimate institutions. They believe that they must begin with the establishment of a Christian parliament. How can we compare words and slogans with what is actually taking place on the ground? They want to effect a change within the Phalange Party and within the Lebanese Forces through democratic means. That's merely a slogan. What they actually want to do is use force to take over the party founded by Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil. How can we distinguish between words, slogans, and democracy, and the forcible takeover of the party?

Our advice is that they must think deeply about the consequences of their actions, both on the Phalangist Party and Christians as a whole. I don't think that they can play with the Christians' feelings to lead them on the road to Golgotha.

I have heard of proposals for decentralization, for the establishment of cantons, for federation, for confederation, and for the division of Lebanon among the communities under the slogan of consolidating the state of Lebanon. However, such proposals seek only to destroy and exterminate Lebanon. Is this how homelands are built? Is this how the citizens are united? Is this how the future can be defended? Meanwhile Israel is declaring every day that it is shortening the phases of its withdrawal, to escape from this hell and swamp, as they term it. How can we believe anything except that Israel is the only party that will benefit from all of the current events in Lebanon?

Who among us can believe that by establishing a Christian organization to participate in decisionmaking they seek to consolidate the president's position? How can you persuade us that such action will serve to consolidate the Presidency? We feel that our efforts to consolidate the Presidency are much more sincere.

As soon as they have the land and the people, they will take control by insisting that his excellency the president either accept and implement whatever they propose or demand, or be forced to resign. Will this serve Lebanon? Will such action consolidate and safeguard the role of the Presidency? No, gentlemen, it will not. Look to your consciences and to your sound thinking, for it is in this way that you will be serving Christianity and consolidating the Presidency.

We must say no to proposals that will lead to the extermination of Lebanon, either with or without your knowledge or that of those who support you. The result is bad in either case. When we agreed in the Cabinet and in the government of national unity to government's policy statement, we were expressing the free will of the Lebanese people, within a democratic system and in accordance with the constitution by which we abide. This was supported by the Chamber of Deputies. The Chamber represents the Lebanese people, and no one can contest its approval. The government's policy statement is the regime's new formula, which we all accepted. You all know how the Chamber of Deputies and the government are composed. Why all this uproar, all of these proposals, and all these efforts to cover up evil and danger by citing the Christians' highest interest?

While we support the plenary Christian conference that convened in the Presidential Palace at the outset of these activities, in the presence of the patriarchs and other leading Christian figures, and while we uphold its clear statement, we must understand that this constitutes support as well for the policy being pursued, and the plan formulated, for the achievement of Lebanon's unity, sovereignty, liberation, and independence.

Nabih Birri Denounces Samir Ja'ja' Movement

NC181513 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Nabih Birri, minister of state for southern Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, has called upon President Amin al-Jumayyil to adopt an immediate and decisive position regarding events in the eastern areas, and to defend his constitutional oath on safeguarding Lebanon and its unity. Birri inquired about the nature of the settlement that is being discussed by the concerned parties, asserting that such discussion is absolutely impermissible when treasonous affairs are involved.

Minister Birri emphasized that the Amal movement and the national and Islamic forces will fight for 90 years to safeguard Lebanon and its unity. He called upon the movement of Samir Ja'ja' to abandon its partitionist plan, saying: No force can impose a partitioned Lebanon on us. Lebanon must belong to all of its sons. We will not permit one oasis and not other oases.

Birri added: Those who resisted Israel do not fear its agents. We will not accept an alternative for a united Lebanon. He pointed out that the success of the movement of Samir Ja'ja' would bring back the situation which prevailed prior to 1982.

He called on the Christians to confront the so-called uprising in the eastern area because it threatens the Christians in Lebanon and also the Christians in the region. He said: We are giving Ja'ja' an opportunity now to act. Afterward, we will determine who the Israeli agents were and deal with them appropriately.

Birri on Current Developments

NC182050 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1805 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Statement delivered by Nabih Birri, minister of state for southern Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, during a news conference in Beirut on 18 March — recorded]

[Excerpts] After the Dayr Yasin massacre [in Palestine in 1948], the Israeli forces committed the Al-Zrariyah massacre. During

this massacre, the Israeli forces killed the prisoners. Merkava tanks destroyed cars and trampled upon innocent women and children. The Israeli forces have not been content with this action and have persisted in their arrests and attacks against religious figures, such as brother Muhsin Fadlallah in Khirbat Salim. They have exceeded all bounds by carrying out piratical acts. They have set up ambushes between one village and another to fire on innocent people without first finding out their identity or even if they are affiliated with the resistance. All that has mattered to these forces is that they have recently discovered that all southerners are resisting them. Consequently, they are carrying out their duty, [words indistinct] by perpetrating an extermination operation in the south. This is occuring at a time when the Israeli prime minister has stated that he is shortening the withdrawal period to 8 or 10 weeks.

We reaffirm, and perhaps for the last time, that Israel must withdraw immediately from Lebanon without any conditions or restrictions and without maintaining any border strip set up through Sa'd Haddad, or which Sharon is now proposing. We and Lebanon are committed to Security Council Resolution 425. In other words, we are fully prepared to ask the Security Council to increase UNIFIL's strength and effectiveness and to deploy them at the border strip and up to the areas in which they have been present since 1972.

We are saying this on the occasion of U.S. envoy Murphy's return to the area. There will be no return to the [word indistinct] discussions. Israel's crimes cannot be covered up through any discussions, even if they are military discussions. There is an armistice agreement between Lebanon and Israel and there is also Resolution 425. Furthermore, UNIFIL is present in accordance with this resolution. What is necessary is for Israel to withdraw without keeping a border strip, unless the Israeli Government wants to heed Sharon's advice. Sharon advised a border strip in 1982.

At any rate, while Israel is preparing to withdraw from Lebanon, it has immediately penetrated inside Lebanon to receive its appropriate compensation. Israel has returned to interfere in Lebanon's decisionmaking. By this I mean the 12 March events. The observer of developments in the eastern area and the shakeup of the structure of the Phalange Party and the Lebanese Forces may have had the right to be pleased with events if this shakeup had been the result of a struggle by a patriotic Christian group on the basis that the result of such a struggle would be positive and in the interests of the Lebanese people. The fact that this struggle is led by Samir Ja'ja' and Elie Hubayqah raises many questions and doubts.

According to our custom in public affairs, honesty does not permit us to be anything other than very frank. Those who have been following the conduct of Samir Ja'ja' since the Ihdin massacre, the Israeli incursion and the massacres in Sabra and Shatila which accompanied it, and until his [word indistinct] of the war in the mountain and his evacuation from the besieged Dayr al-Qamar by the Israelis, and ending with his reappointment in Jubayl — those who have been following all of this will clearly see the continuous Israeli influence in this conduct. Israeli influence may have reached its peak in the movement he is heading with the participation of other people of his choice. This action may appear initially as an internal struggle in the Lebanese Forces and the Phalange Party. However, it is no more than a practical Israeli reply to a chain of events, which Israel has fostered in Lebanon and the region. These developments began with the abrogation of the 17 May agreement and ended with the start of the withdrawal. I admit with full respect [words indistinct] and contrary to what some might believe that this reply has resulted from careful planning. This is a response to the 6 February uprising which returned Lebanon to the Arabs. The new uprising of 12 March is meant to return Lebanon to the Israeli [words indistinct].

It recently became clear that the process of the Syrian solution was about to achieve results. The Syrian solution has resulted in two developments: First, the acceleration of the Israeli withdrawal through the escalation of the resistance operations, military action in the south, and through the political and official stand which the government of national unity has achieved — on this occasion let me say that the government of national unity has achieved this victory — second, the strengthening of the process of internal political solution through extinguishing hotbeds of tension by implementing security plans and pushing forward the political settlement.

These two developments have necessitated urgent Israeli action. The U.S. retreat in the area [words indistinct], and this plan is not unconnected with U.S. policies. It is no coincidence that the U.S. Government should defend Ja'ja' and simultaneously defend the continuation of the legitimate regime. It is as if the U.S. government supports and does not support the regime, and supports and does not support Ja'ja', and that it is neutral. This U.S. retreat in the region, particularly in Lebanon, represented by this regression in the eastern area [words indistinct].

Israel is now stumbling as it withdraws from the Al-Litani area, western Al-Biqa', and Al-Baruk. Israel wants an internal coverup to confront the boisterous demonstrations, which protest Israeli policy. The coverup is that while Israel is withdrawing from the Al-Litani, it has reached the gates of Al-Shiyah [in the Beirut area]. The withdrawal from Al-Baruk and western Al-Biqa' will give Syria more freedom of action in the region and Lebanon. Therefore, the blow must be dealt before the withdrawal is completed. Syria wants, under the current circumstances, to end the Lebanese issue and devote itself to the Arab-Jordanian-Egyptian issue. Therefore, Syria must be diverted to keep it in Lebanon.

All this has made me appreciate the timing, plan, and real coup which goes beyond the limits of the uprising. This is not an uprising, but a coup. It is a coup on the Lebanese level, the political level, and the Arab and regional levels. Despite my appreciation of and respect for Karim Baqraduni's diplomacy, his attempt to belittle what has taken place will be in vain. What has happened, Karim, goes beyond the limits of generosity to reach the swamp of conspiracy.

What are the goals of this coup? The coup leaders said that it is necessary to restore independent Christian political, military, and administrative decisionmaking. What does this mean? The independence of political decisionmaking by Ja'ja' forces would mean the return of the Chrisitan opposition with Israeli influ-

ence. The independence of military decisionmaking by Ja'ja' forces would mean keeping the current field positions of these forces and perhaps taking over the other field positions that they previously held and which they feel they were compelled to abandon to the legitimate forces in view of the poltical settlement, which Amin al-Jumayyil himself sponsored.

On the basis of the above, Ja'ja's completion of his control of the eastern area would inevitably result in restoring hotbeds of tension. These hotbeds would be hotter than the confrontation lines that existed in Beirut and (?elsewhere).

A quick analysis of the above shows the extent of the anticipated Israeli exploitation of the new situation in East Beirut to obstruct the political and security solution and to reduce resistance in the south. Briefly speaking, the success of Ja'ja' would restore the situation to what it was between Bashir al-Jumayyil and [words indistinct] before 1982. The plan of Samir Ja'ja' is an incomplete Christian plan because of the Israeli exploitation. It would either lead, under the best of circumstances, to reviving the sectarian cantons' plan or to inciting national and Islamic feelings against the [words indistinct] Christian community. This plan means the partition of Lebanon. It means a return to [words indistinct]. Otherwise, what is the meaning of this parliament and what is the meaning of the government and the ministers? What is the meaning of elections? If they want to do all of this, then what would they leave to the president of their republic?

Those who have resisted Israel are not afraid of its agents. We will not accept an alternative to a united Lebanon. [Words indistinct] the Amal movement will fight for another 90 years to safeguard Lebanon's unity.

I ask Amin al-Jumayyil the following question: In view of your constitutional oath to safeguard Lebanon and its unity, how can such a settlement [with the Ja'ja' group] be allowed? From the very first moment, I informed you of my support and of the support of my allies, above all, Brother Walid Junblatt, sister Syria, and all the national forces, for confronting this plot. This is because it is absolutely out of the question to permit treasonous matters to be discussed. Even under the best of circumstances, this settlement would only undermine the dignity and capability of the president and [words indistinct].

Strange! We are not demanding that the eastern areas suffer the same fate as the southern suburbs. We absolutely do not accept that the homes of the Lebanese Christians be demolished like our homes were demolished.

However, why this hesitation? Why is the Army not put on alert, except against certain quarters? Why is the Lebanese Army allowed to fight only against the nationalists?

The answer: Yes, this is what is required from the president of the Lebanese Republic [words indsitinct].

He knows and I know that Israeli helicopters ferried Israeli commanders to the eastern sector of Beirut. He knows and I know that yesterday and the day before the fifth dock received ships loaded with arms. He knows and I know that lights were extinguished 2 nights ago on the Juniyah corniche in the Aqua Marina area so that Israeli weapons could be unloaded. He knows that in one way or another the Al-Dubayyah [Israeli liaison] office has been reopened, not in the Al-Dubayyah area, [words indistinct].

What is needed is a position by which the president will safeguard the unity of the country and government.

Finally, I address a word to them [Lebanese Forces] since they have asked for a dialogue with me. We were about to begin a dialogue with you on the land of southern Lebanon. There were indications that we could work together on the road to liberation. This coup turned things upside down. I ask you to change your mind and to abandon the idea of a partitioned Lebanon because we will not allow it. No force on this earth can impose a partitioned Lebanon on us. Either Lebanon will belong to all of its sons, or we will not permit a situation in which there is an oasis here, but not an oasis there.

We are now giving them an opportunity to act. Afterward, we will determine who the Israeli agents are and deal with them appropriately.

'Uprising' Calls for Cooperation, Peace

NC151758 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] There is a campaign to distort the true aims and dimensions of the Lebanese Forces' uprising. Certain parties, known for their traditional hostility to any free Christian action, have persisted in creating atmospheres with the aim of distorting the objective of the Lebanese Forces' uprising and to draw it into a conflict it does not want. The distortion campaign has started to take on the nature of an organized and clear plan.

In light of this phenomenon, the Lebanese Forces' uprising, the Christian decision movement, wants to stress once again that it is a movement of hope and peace within the political society, and a movement of liberation and reconciliation within the Lebanese society. It would like the various local and regional parties to deal with it on this basis because it does not harbor any hostile designs against any local party since its principles are ones of unity. It also does not harbor any hostile designs against any regional party because it is open in its aspirations. Reconciliation in Lebanon should be among parties that can take free decisions and not among parties of which some are strong and the others weak.

Lebanon's relations with others cannot be based on mutual respect unless there is an independent decision in our society, otherwise these relations will be dependent upon others. Hence, the Lebanese Forces' uprising — the independent [as heard] Christian decision movement calls on the various Lebanese and regional parties to respond to the new Christian proposals and to use them within the framework of political solutions. The uprising inside the Christian society is not aiming at taking the Lebanese issue out of the sphere of political solutions to the sphere of military solutions. Hence, it is surprised that its actions are being painted as being against reconciliation and as subjecting the Christian society to danger.

On the basis of this fact, the uprising calls on all local, regional, and international parties to deal with it in a positive spirit, because this uprising will facilitate the establishment of the true Lebanese reconciliation and will facilitate Lebanon's foreign relations based on mutual respect.

The uprising reminds everyone that it stems from internal considerations. Its objective is to restore the Christian decision and rebuild the representational and decisionmaking institutions, without this being aimed against any initiative or decisionmaking center which does not have as an aim to contain or eliminate the Christian will.

Phalangist Official Interviewed on 'Coup Attempt'

JN152131 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1927 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Interview with Joseph Abu Khalil, Phalange Party official, on "It Happened Tomorrow" program by Antoine Nawfal, Radio Monte Carlo news director; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] **[Nawfal]** Joseph, in your capacity as one of the Phalange Party leaders, in view of the fact that you were among the delegation that visited Damascus, and because you are a wise man, we want you to assess what is taking place today between the Phalange Party and the Lebanese Forces?
[Abu Khalil] In fact, we can describe what is taking place as a coup attempt, because those who are leading this movement embody the feelings, ideas, and fears that resulted from the war. They are trying, by their actions, to affect the party's resolutions and course. It is known that for the last year the party followed a particular course of action regarding national and foreign policy. This course of action is meant to achieve an internal settlement, that is, national reconciliation as soon as possible. This course also aims at settling the relationship between Lebanon and Syria. We can say that this relationship has been suffering from continuous crises since the establishment of both countries. For about a year, the party meant to reconcile the two issues.

The party's course, or its political plan, was a difficult decision. When the party adopted this plan, it was in fact a difficult decision for the party itself, for its strugglers, and for the base that it embodies.

[Nawfal] The decision was difficult, but since the beginning have you not tried to convince the party that is now reacting against the decision of the course of the party?
[Abu Khalil] The fact is that the party took about 6 months to formulate this decision or this general trend. The decision was formulated in accordance with democratic principles and was discussed many times by the party's various institutions on all levels. There were many opinions. However, in the end there was a semiconsensus or at least the majority agreed on this general trend being a sound trend and the course that would lead more quickly to salvation.

[Nawfal] Joseph, it is obvious that this state of affairs cannot continue, and that there should be a settlement. What are the Phalange Party's conditions for this settlement?

[Abu Khalil] There are no conditions. The party has its own way to confront this problem. The party supports the solution, but the solution should be through political ways, and not any other ways. Any solution should be within the framework of untouched principles and stands — the general national trend, national interest, the security of Lebanon as a whole, and the security of the Lebanese entity which is about 10,452 km.

[Nawfal] Joseph, who decides national interest? Does the Phalange Party decide it?
[Abu Khalil] All the Lebanese decide the national interest. This decision was adopted on many levels. The party participated in formulating this general, national, political plan, whether through the Geneva and Lausanne conferences, the permanent government, or the policy statement. National interest was defined in this way. National interest should not be harmed; the war should be stopped as soon as possible, the economic deterioration should be stopped, the social crisis should be stopped. These are some aspects of national interest.

[Nawfal] Joseph, Syria has issued a warning, but despite this there is no indication that it will interfere with the two parties. But if it does interfere, will the Phalange Party agree to such an interference?
[Abu Khalil] First, this is a correction. Syria has not issued a warning. However, it expressed fears about what is taking palce in Lebanon and about any possible change or shift in Lebanon's current trend in general. It expressed such fears, but it did not indicate that it would interfere under any circumstances. We hope that any interference will ease [words indistinct]. I don't believe that any material or military interference will achieve anything. We hope that Syrian interference will reduce Lebanese contradictions and help the Lebanese achieve domestic accord and security in the country. We hope that such an interference will take place, and I don't believe that Syria will interfere in a different way.

[Nawfal] Do you mean that Syria should interfere politically?
[Abu Khalil] It should interfere politically because Syria has an important influence in the Lebanese arena.

[Nawfal] Will any military interference be rejected?
[Abu Khalil] Of course. I don't believe that Syria is considering military interference, and we are certainly against any foreign military interference. We want to settle our Lebanese differences at any level among ourselves.

[Nawfal] It seems that the Phalange delegation has made commitments to itself. Will it agree on a confederation with Syria if Syria wants such a confederation?
[Abu Khalil] I am surprised by talk about a federation, confederation, and such things, I am also surprised to hear that the Phalange Party has made commitments. What I can say is that the Phalange Party has been trying for some time to define relations between the two countries — relations that should be based on mutual confidence — and to end any doubts that have prevailed between the two countries since their establishment, particularly between the Christians and Syria. The Phalange Party this time wants to end these problems and these doubts. [Words indistinct] as two neighboring countries, they should maintain special relations. If there are any commitments to

Damascus by the Phalangists, these are the commitments. I am surprised by any talk that overlooks these solutions.

[Nawfal] Can't the Al-Birbarah barricade be removed? What is there between you and the forces, and is there any possibility for patching up differences?
[Abu Khalil] The problem does not lie in the Al-Birbarah barricade. It is one of the barricades that we want to remove from public roads and highways in the country to restore communication among the Lebanese and to restore normal life. We have decided to remove the Al-Birbarah barricade as part of a comprehensive plan to reopen roads, achieve security, and restore communication between the Lebanese areas. The Al-Birbarah barricade has not been a central problem. It is one of a number of barricades to be removed, and we will exert every effort to remove them to restore life to normal. This is the story of the Al-Birbarah barricade. This barricade has gained special meaning because the problem in the north centered on it as if it has become the cause of the north. However, the party's view of this matter has been within a general concept of the security solution in the country.

[Nawfal] If the emergency commitee stemming from the Lebanese forces' uprising calls for setting up a Christian council in which all the functionaries will participate, will the Phalange Party be ready to participate in it?
[Abu Khalil] The idea of setting up a general Christian council for the Christians in Lebanon has been supported, and the Phalange Party proposed this idea at the Christian conference that was been held at the Presidential Palace. It not only supports the idea, but the idea is actually ours. We hope that we will establish such a comprehensive institution so that it can become the center of Christian decision and so that no party, faction, or sector can monopolize decisions. We support this idea. We are even exerting efforts to draw up bylaws that we hope to offer to the Christian functionaries in the near future.

[Nawfal] Finally, what do you anticipate within the few next hours?
[Abu Khalil] I anticipate further detente as a result of the party's efforts to end the problem and as a result of the interference of the Christian and non-Christian functionaries to put a quick end to it. Difficulties continue on the ground, but with further detent and with further rational action, we hope that we will reach a solution to the problem in the near future.

Zionist, Ja'ja' Officials Reportedly Meet

NC161356 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] A meeting was held in Juniyah Port last night between Zionist officers and officials of the Ja'ja' group to study ways of controlling current developments.

The Voice of Arab Lebanon has learned that a high-ranking Israeli officer returned to Juniyah this morning and met with Elie Hubayqah, an official of the Ja'Ja' group, who asked for more Israeli support to intensify pressure.

Christian Committee Briefs Al-Jumayyil

NC171828 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Since this morning, President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has been following the results of the contacts held at more than one level to remedy the situation resulting from the recent developments in the eastern areas. In this respect, President al-Jumayyil met with members of the committee formed by the expanded Christian conference that convened at the Presidential Palace last Wednesday. The committee members briefed the president on the results of their contacts.

President al-Jumayyil praised the efforts being exerted to remedy the situation in a manner that will realize a united stand and consolidate the unity of ranks, while placing all his capabilities at the disposal of the committee members to bring about the success of their delicate and essential task.

President al-Jumayyil also met with Army Commander General Michel 'Awn, who briefed him on the situation and expressed satisfaction with the role the Army has played in controlling the security situation immediately and in reopening the roads to ensure communication among the various areas. President al-Jumayyil also carried out a series of contacts with political and spiritual leaders to coordinate efforts and stands so as to consolidate calm and normal life.

AFP: Christians Agree to 'Compromise Plan'

NC181242 Paris AFP in English 1234 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Beirut, March 18 (AFP) — Opposing groups in the Lebanese Christian community have agreed to a compromise plan aimed at healing their split, informed sources said here today.

President Amin al-Jumayyil, who is a Christian, the Kata'ib Phalange Party and the Christian militia coalition known as the Lebanese Forces will be called on to give final approval to the package, the sources said.

A news blackout was imposed today on the plan. The details will be announced by noon tomorrow, the sources said.

The split in Christian ranks developed last Wednesday, when Samir Ja'ja', who heads about 5,000 Lebanese Forces troops in northern Lebanon, openly accused President al-Jumayyil of giving too many concessions to Syria.

Fighting broke out between the dissidents and a pro-Al-Jumayyil wing of the Lebanese Forces, which prevented the rebels from linking with potential allies in Christian East Beirut.

Last weekend, Syria, which supports the Al-Jumayyil government, sent troops and heavy weapons into positions opposite [the militia of Mr Ja'ja'], along a line about 50 kms (30 miles) north of Beirut.

Syria took a leading role in Lebanon a year ago, when its Moslem and Druze allies in Lebanon thwarted a draft troop withdrawal agreement with Israel.

Karamah on Christian 'Option,' Reforms
NC181559 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Phalange Party Leader Dr Elie Karamah opened the joint meeting of the Phalangist Political Bureau and Central Council today, saying: Domestic affairs must be dealt with in Lebanon. If a Christian option is required, which will receive unanimity or partial unanimity, then the Phalange Party respects Lebanese public opinion in general and Christian public opinion in particular.

Dr Karamah added: We support Christian decisionmaking which would achieve Christian aspirations. We are open to all comrades to reach appropriate solutions. We do not forget that the tragic circumstances of the war have prevented the acceleration of some reforms within the party and the Lebanese Forces.

Deputy Calls for 'Deterrent Measures' Against U.S.
NC180855 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 16 Mar 85 p 5

[Text] Deputy Talal al-Mir'abi has called on the Lebanese to renounce civil strife and to not rely on the United States, "as it turned Lebanon into a proving ground and a site of explosions." He also based his appeal on the fact that "the United States has embraced Israel."

In a statement yesterday, Deputy al-Mir'abi stressed that Israel has been trying to cover up its defeat and its withdrawals. He said it has sought to conceal these actions, taken in the face of blows from the national resistance and our people's faith, by carrying out harsh actions and strikes.

He expressed his belief that the Bi'r al-'Abd and Al-Zrariyah operations, as well as the fighting stirred up by Israel within its "ironfisted" policy, are part of this plan.

Al-Mir'abi declared that deterrent measures must be adopted in confronting the United States, and demanded that such action be taken by all Arab countries.

He urged the appropriate officials to accelerate the formation of legitimate forces, which will be ready to enter those areas evacuated by Israel during the second phase of its withdrawal.

Al-Asad, Al-Jumayyil Hold Telephone Conversation
JN190647 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0315 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received a telephone call from Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil last night. The conversation dealt with the recent developments in some Lebanese areas. President al-Jumayyil asserted that the situation is improving and that the Lebanese Government continues to follow the provisions of the Lausanne reconciliation conference, the government's policy statement, and the Damascus and Beirut agreements.

President Hafiz al-Asad affirmed Syria's support for the Lebanese legitimate government and its full backing for Lebanon's unity and independence and against any divisionist trend under any name. Experience has shown that Syria does not take an indifferent stand toward the Lebanese developments particularly when issues go against Lebanese and Arab interests.

The two presidents agreed to hold further contacts.

Cabinet Reviews Situation in Lebanon, Region
JN181255 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus — The Cabient held a meeting under Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm at 1100 today. At the beginning of this meeting, Dr al-Kasm talked about the new developments in the Arab arena, particularly in the Lebanese arena. He explained the objectives of Arab moves in the region that aim at peddling the U.S.-Israeli plans to liquidate the Palestine cause and control the Arab homeland's capabilities. He asserted the inevitability of these plans' failure as the previous plans have failed.

The prime minister added that the march of national accord and entrenchment of security in Lebanon have achieved continuous and positive results. The national Lebanese resistance has proven its effective role in liberating the Lebanese territory from the Israeli occupation, a role that is hailed and appreciated by everybody. He concluded by saying that the success of the Lebanese people in moving with alertness and courage [words indistinct]. Israel and its agents cannot obstruct the positive steps aimed at preserving Lebanon's unity, people and territory; at maintaining its independence and Arab affiliation; and at consolidating the desire of all Lebanese factions to build one secure and stable homeland that can flourish through its sons' efforts.

The ministers asserted the credibility of the Syrian policy that supports the comprehensive, popular trend in Lebanon toward accord and security, and toward liberating the territory from the Israeli occupation. The ministers highly praised the Lebanese people's awareness and ability to close ranks and confront the conspiracies in order to deprive Israel of its opportunities, especially since all attempts to divide Lebanon and destroy its national existence, Arab affiliation, and components of its economic and social prosperity have failed.

After reviewing the new developments in the region, the Cabinet asserted that Syria's influential pan-Arab line under President Hafiz al-Asad has aborted the political and media deception of the capitulatory and liquidatory circles and that the Arab masses have realized that the political and media slogans of the Arabs' battle against their enemies are raised by the Damascus of Al-Asad. Damascus' steadfastness prevented any suspect force from depriving the masses of their pan-Arab objectives and their basic battle against the Zionist enemy and its allies.

The Cabinet then discussed the topics on its agenda, and endorsed a number of draft decrees and laws.

Foreign Minister Receives PNC's Khalid al-Fahum
JN191133 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum at 1000 today. During the meeting, conversation dealt with the efforts in the Palestinian arena exerted by all the resistance factions to foil the Amman agreement and the course of capitulation.

Talas Interviewed on Military Movement in Lebanon
GF181851 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 17 Mar 85 p 20

[Exclusive report from Damascus]

[Excerpt] *AL-QABAS* yesterday contacted General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Syrian Armed Forces and minister of defense, and asked him about the military movements, which reports from Beirut said Syrian troops operating in northern Lebanon have started from Al-Madfun bridge toward Beirut. Gen Talas affirmed to *AL-QABAS* that orders were given to Syrian military units to support the legitimacy of Lebanon.

He said: Syria will not take a nonaligned position in this matter because it is concerned about it. Syria will offer anything that will support Lebanese legitimacy in the face of attempts by Israel and its agents to undermine the national Lebanese reconciliation.

Gen Talas spoke about the positive atmosphere that characterized the situation in Lebanon in the past few days. He said: The march of reconciliation was progressing successfully until Samir Ja'ja' and his group came to destroy and delay this march and the national reconciliation process in order to serve Israel and its objectives. Gen Talas added: We will not allow Israel's agents to undermine the national reconciliation process and we will support the legitimacy and president Amin al-Jumayyil with everything we have.

Gen Talas said: Israel's agents have tried their luck before and failed; they will fail this time also. Syria will not remain only a spectator. Syria's position stems from its endeavor and decisive decision to support the Lebanese legitimacy as much as possible.

Commentaries View Husayn-Mubarak Visit to Baghdad

AL-BA'TH

JN191149 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 19 Mar 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Baghdad Visit and the Urgent Mission," *AL-BA'TH* says: All world political circles have wondered about the surprise visit to Baghdad by the two renegade leaders, Husayn and Mubarak, and have reached one conclusion: the renegade alignment is suffering a defeat. The Baghdad visit cannot be out of love for Iraq and its people, nor is it of a pan-Arab character serving the Arab nation, but an urgent mission which the two renegade leaders have been instructed to explore and see if it can be implemented.

Baghdad is in dire need of security, peace, and protection. All these aspirations cannot be attained under a regime that has drowned all of Iraq in blood. The U.S. demand is to keep Iraq as it is. If the regrettable and surprise visit to Baghdad has taken place under circumstances in which U.S. diplomacy has created an Arab reality enabling Israel to reap the fruits of its aggression, the Iraqi people assume, at the present time, a very special responsibility. This is because the United States which has often replaced its agents with new deceptive faces, is now not as concerned about Saddam personally as it is about keeping Iraq within the group of renegades, and far from its national causes and the objectives of the July revolution that toppled the monarchy and uprooted the treason of Nuri al-Sa'id.

Since the two renegade leaders, Mubarak and Husayn, have always played roles on behalf of the reactionary-Zionist- imperialist alliance, their visit to Baghdad cannot be to save Iraq, but to involve that Arab country in new tragedies whether under Saddam or his replacement, if the United States decides to create a replacement.

TISHRIN

JN191101 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus, 19 Mar (SANA) — The newspaper *TISHRIN* today denounced the meetings and the overt and covert talks that the capitulationist partners Husayn, Mubarak, and Saddam are holding, particularly yesterday's Baghdad meeting, which are all aimed at liquidating the Palestinian cause and dragging the Arabs into the quagmire of surrender in accordance with the U.S.-Israeli schemes. The paper said that Mubarak's visit to Baghdad is very significant because he is trying to market the U.S. proposals and hide his failure to convince the U.S. Administration of his initiative in realizing so-called Arab success.

TISHRIN pointed out that the United States, which arranged the new moves of the Camp David partners, is refusing to accept any initiatives from outside the White House. The U.S. Administration wants an open move accompanied by a Palestinian recognition of Israel's existence as a first step, and an acceptance of the principle of negotiations with Israel as a second step. Mubarak's and Husayn's moves are in accordance with this U.S.-Israeli concept.

The paper added that by visiting Baghdad, Mubarak has realized two basic aims: breaking his isolation and markcting the U.S.-Israeli policy.

In conclusion, *TISHRIN* noted that these partners are rendering a free service to the United States and Israel, and that in the end, they will only reap humiliation and disappointment.

U.S. Visits by Mubarak, Jordan's Al-Masri Viewed

JN162017 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Palestine broadcast: From "On the Events" program]

[Text] The United States has invited Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri to hold talks with George Shultz on the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. The State Department confirmed the news and announced that Tahir al-Masri will leave for Washington this week to complete the talks that the Egyptian regime's President Husni Mubarak held on the issue of direct negotiations.

President Reagan welcomed Husni Mubarak's proposal on direct negotiations. Reagan renewed his condition that no PLO member could join the Palestinian side, which is one of the Israeli conditions to hold negotiations with the Jordanian regime. Reagan stipulated that the parties that are qualified for negotiations must agree to hold direct negotiations before the United States can enter as a mediator. He praised the role of the Egyptian regime, affirming that it constitutes a link between the Arabs and Israel — a matter that may lead to expanding such negotiations.

U.S. circles expect the Jordanian foreign minister's visit to Washington to pave the way for the first session of negotiations between the United States and a joint Jordanian- Palestinian delegation. They expect a representative of the Zionist entity to be invited to join this session. These circles affirmed that the official negotiations, which may take place in April or May, could be held in Cairo with the participation of Egyptian and U.S. delegations. A U.S. official said that many details will be announced following the Shultz-Al-Masri meeting. He added that King Husayn will probably leave for Washington during or following the Jordanian foreign minister's visit to the U.S. capital.

Briefs

New SFRY Ambassador — Damascus, 18 Mar (SANA) — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received here this morning Davorin Kostanjsek, who presented a copy of his credentials as the new SFRY ambassador to Syria. The talks dealt with the developing relations between the two friendly countries. [Text] [*Damascus SANA in Arabic 1335 GMT 18 Mar 85 JN*]

Peres Criticizes Calls for Immediate Withdrawal
TA181155 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has criticized those calling for an immediate withdrawal from Lebanon. Peres said that Israel is on its way out of Lebanon, but there is an impression in the press of pressure on the government to withdraw as quickly as possible.

[Begin Peres recording] There is a little bit of rhetoric because the competition is not on the withdrawal, but on the declarations of withdrawal — who will be the quickest one to declare that we shall withdraw immediately. We have decided and we are determined to leave the soil of Lebanon and defend our northern frontiers, our northern villages, from our own land. [end recording]

Prime Minister Peres was speaking to the International Conference on Voluntarism in Jerusalem.

Officials Deny Withdrawal in 10 Weeks Guaranteed
TA181831 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Israeli officials say that Prime Minister Peres has not guaranteed a total withdrawal from Lebanon within 10 weeks. The officials told reporter David Essing that in his interview yesterday with CBS television Peres had only spoken of most Israeli troops being out of Lebanon by that time. The prime minister today criticized those calling for an immediate withdrawal from Lebanon, accusing them of seeking publicity.

Levi Urges Security Arrangements Before Phase II Ends
TA190719 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0700 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi says that it is necessary to discuss and decide upon the security arrangements in the north now, rather than wait for the completion of the second stage of the withdrawal. Minister Levi told our correspondent Amnon Nadav that all the Cabinet ministers agree on measures to follow the IDF withdrawal to the international border, and that therefore the issue should not be postponed or turned into a partisan argument.

Army General Warns Against Recurrent Terrorism
TA190521 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] The commander of the Northern Command says that Israel will not be able to tolerate a terrorist infrastructure along its northern border, as was the case prior to the war in Lebanon. Speaking to our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal, Major General Ori Or said that life in those villages in southern Lebanon from which terrorists launch attacks will be miserable. He added that the northern settlers might experience a crisis of sorts, because they entertained high expectations that quiet will continue to prevail along the northern border. At the same time, he expressed his conviction that if incidents occur, the residents of Qiryat Shemona will not leave the town.

IDF Kills Two 'Terrorists' During Searches in Ma'rub
TA181718 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The IDF forces today conducted searches in the village of Ma'rub, which is about 3 km northeast of the village of Ma'rakah, during which two terrorists were killed. Military sources said that during the searches weapons were found, and the house of a terrorist was demolished after weapons were found there.

The two terrorists tried to escape and were killed. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht was told by the UNIFIL headquarters that their bodies were discovered by a UNIFIL patrol, and they were handed over to the International Red Cross. The UNIFIL headquarters also said that south of the village of Dayr Qanun the UNIFIL soldiers have found two more bodies riddled with bullets. The two were local villagers, aged 70 and 20. The UNIFIL headquarters says that the circumstances of their death are not clear.

Peres Reportedly To Meet With Mubarak in Cairo
TA190935 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew
19 Mar 85 p 2

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak will apparently meet within a few weeks in Cairo. The pair will discuss thawing the relations between Israel and Egypt and launching a new political move, with the participation of a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. Over the past few days secret contacts have been completed between Jerusalem and Cairo to coordinate the summit between the prime minister of Israel and the Egyptian president. Jerusalem believes that Egyptian President Mubarak and King Husayn of Jordan have decided to bring about the creation of an Arab coalition of moderate countries that would also include Saudi Arabia and Algeria.

Kimche Expresses Displeasure Over French UN Vote
TA181619 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1500 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] David Kimche, the Foreign Ministry director general, has met with the French ambassador in Israel and expressed Israel's displeasure with the French Government's vote at the United Nations on two recent occasions. The reference is to France's support for the UN Security Council's resolution condemning Israel's operations in southern Lebanon and the Human Rights Commission's resolution condemning Israel for its treatment of prisoners from the territories. The Foreign Ministry's spokesman told our correspondent Gid'on Remez that the ambassador promised to convey Israel's position to his government.

Shamir Meets With Canada's Mulroney in Ottawa
TA170606 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 17 Mar 85 p 1

[Report by Walter Ruby]

[Excerpt] Ottawa — Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney promised Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir on Friday that he will take part in efforts to strengthen Canada-Israel trade, and said it might be possible to extend the U.S.-Israel free trade area into a tripartite zone including Canada.

The meeting with Mulroney was the high point of Shamir's three-day stay in Ottawa, which also included meetings with Foreign Minister Joe Clark and opposition leader John Turner. Shamir left Ottawa after the meeting with Mulroney for visits to Montreal and Toronto. He is to leave Canada for Israel today.

Mulroney, who returned from the funeral of Konstantin Chernenko in Moscow Thursday night, briefed Shamir on a meeting he held there with new Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

According to an Israeli source, Mulroney told Shamir that Gorbachev appears to be fully in control in the Kremlin, and it appeared to the Canadian premier that it will be Gorbachev, and not Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko, who will be in charge of formulating Soviet foreign policy.

Shamir expressed interest in learning more on developments in the Soviet Union to see if there was any chance that the new leadership will mitigate Soviet hostility toward Israel.

On the issue of Israel-Canada trade, Mulroney expressed support for the agreement earlier in the week betweeen Clark and Shamir that Israeli and Canadian economic delegations visit each other's countries.

Stressing that he will involve himself personally to make sure that proper attention is given to the issue of expanded trade, Mulroney told Shamir that "friendly and warm relations with Israel are a very basic principle in Canadian policy."

According to the Israeli source, Mulroney "did not rule out" the possibility of Canadian participation in the U.S.-Israel free trade area. Shamir responded that such a tripartite zone is an "interesting concept."

Shamir raised the issue of the location of the Canadian Embassy in Israel, and explained to Mulroney the supreme importance of Jerusalem for Israelis. Shamir asked Mulroney to review the longtime Canadian policy of keeping its embassy in Tel Aviv.

Memorandum on Development Signed With Netherlands
TA190941 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 19 Mar 85 p 4

[Text] A memorandum of understanding for cooperation in industrial research and development was signed between the Governments of Israel and the Netherlands following the visit to Holland by the chief scientist of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Yig'al Ehrlich, the chief scientist of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, explained that the document expresses the intention of the two governments to appoint a joint committee to locate and approve projects for cooperation between industrial plants in Holland and Israeli companies. To a more limited extent, the agreement will also include research work being carried out by institutions of higher education.

The Dutch industrial research and development budget is about $500 million this year and, according to the Dutch, their country is suffering a shortage of good ideas for implementation in the industrial sphere and, in their view, industry and research institutes in Israel are a source of new ideas.

Morasha MK Verdiger Resigns From Coalition
TA181622 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Morasha Knesset Member [MK] Avraham Verdiger has resigned from the coalition. Our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz reports that Verdiger has sent a letter to Coalition Chairwoman Sara Doron, announcing his resignation.

Tehiya, TZOMET Parties Decide To Unite
TA172110 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] The Tehiya Central Committee and the TZOMET Secretariat decided today to unify the two movements. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that the unified institutions will begin working together immediately and Tehiya will be represented by 70 percent and TZOMET by 30 percent. This week they will also decide whether to compete in the Histadrut elections.

Finance Minister Interviewed on Economy
TA151947 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Interview with Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i on "Weekly Column" program by David Margalit in the studio on 15 March — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Margalit] Well, the index rose by 13.5 percent in February, and we have heard restrained reactions from the various economic bodies; they are not content but did not come out with the sharp criticism we used to hear in the past. However, does this index not call for a change or for introducing new elements in the package deal?

[Moda'i] No, definitely not. This index was expected when we launched the second package deal. The day before yesterday when I was asked about this, and it may not have been wise of me to do so, I said the index would range between 12 to 15 percent. I did not know it would be exactly in the middle. However, one should understand that after the first package deal we had a high index; this is after all an index for a period when matters are adjusted, the time between the first and the second

package deal. Therefore, whoever expected that this index would be as low as previous indexes, could have implied that the first package deal was continuing and it is not.

[Margalit] However, does this index not indicate that talk about the collapse of the package deal, and the need for changes, has some basis in reality?

[Moda'i] No, I believe that talk about the disintegration of the package deal is an attempt to exert pressure in order to obtain certain achievements that deviate from the letter of the package deal. This is unacceptable; if anybody asks for certain benefits, others will too. After all, we do have a number of parties to this deal.

[Margalit] What do you mean? After all, when Economics and Planning Minister Gad Ya'aqobi talks of collapse, he is not referring to achievements.

[Moda'i] I did not hear Ya'aqobi's remarks, and if he did talk of collapse, I regret to hear this. If he said so, he fell victim to pressures, to the occasionally made mistake of referring to the pressure itself rather than reading the factors that stand behind them.

[Margalit] He said the package deal will be threatened if the price rises continue. He said we are losing control of what is happening, with respect to inflation as well.

[Moda'i] However, this process of price rises will not continue. We did not properly handle the matter of price controls. This is all that has happened. We will surely handle matters as stipulated in the package deal, namely, price controls, controling the prices that were fixed, not frozen, with an attendant process of evaluating exceptional cases, as agreed upon prior to the deal itself.

[Margalit] Was the treatment of this subject of price controls not correct?

[Moda'i] I cannot pass judgement on this. I was simply absent from Israel when this control system was implemented. I left when I got the impression that matters were on the right track, but obstacles arose when we, according to the package deal, cut the subsidies for the second time. We then agreed that if the package deal was indeed violated, we would take into consideration the two occasions of rises in the prices of basic commodities. We thus solved the problem. I was then convinced that prices, like everything else, were under control. Something has obviously come to pass, but I have not yet had the time to study the problems. It is true that I met the other partners to the package deal for rather long talks. I can now state that there is a cure for the existence of the package deal.

[Margalit] What is this cure?

[Moda'i] The cure lies in returning to the package deal, in acting according to the procedures stipulated by it at the beginning, in advance.

[Margalit] Namely, to start all over again?

[Moda'i] No, this is not necessary; we should simply continue, but with an orderly monitoring of the deal, with an orderly issuance of price lists, with quick trials for profiteers, with allowing price increases in exceptional cases, and so on . From my experience I know that each one has different changes in mind when they talk of changes. Now, if the package deal is abolished, for whatever reason, I would like to warn that this will have far reaching implications, since we did not adopt alternative measures. We relied on this deal to stabilize the economy. I hope we will not face a new situation.

[Margalit] The complaint that is being heard is that the package deal has turned into the target itself because, in fact, there is no economic plan, and that is what is being held on to.

[Moda'i] Well, well, it has been a long time since I heard that complaint. Do you know what amazes me? After all, I have just returned from Washington. The Americans talked with us about the economic plan we presented; they are thousands of miles from us and they have seen the plan. They had comments on its scope, its contents, and its speed, but all their comments referred to a comprehensive economic plan, and this was thousands of miles from here. These were first-rate professionals and professors, some of whom are advisers, and some are working in the U.S. Government. I do not want to mention names, because I might forget somebody and that is not pleasant, but I am telling you that this includes the secretary of state himself, who is a professor of economics. Now, you travel thousands of miles, return home, and again you hear the old tune that there is no economic plan. So, I am ready to repeat what I have said about the economic plan for the umpteenth time.

[Margalit] So, how do you explain that ministers in the Cabinet,in which you are sitting, do not know that there is an economic plan?

[Moda'i] That is very grave, if they do not know. I hope there is nobody like that, that is, someone who does not know.

[Margalit] Even Minister Arens, speaking to your own party, the Liberal Party, said yesterday that there is no economic plan.

[Moda'i] If you had only known, or mentioned in what context he said that, you can understand that he did not want to say positive things on that occasion about someone who is required to present an economic plan.

[Margalit] That is to say that ministers say things they know are incorrect?

[Moda'i] I do not know, ask the ministers. I am only telling you, there is a plan; I would be prepared to go over it now, but I see your time is short. I have told you what has just happened, over the past week. We now have a delegation of professors from the United States also for a discussion of one of the problems in the general economic plan. I reported on that economic plan in my opening speech, the speech presenting the budget this year. I reported it to the Cabinet in writing 4 months ago. I again reported it to the Knesset — for 2 hours — in one of my appearances on the issue of the economic plan. I again reported it at several sessions, to the Knesset Finance Committee. Well, if people do not want to see, they cannot see.

[Margalit] When you say you sat in the United States and spoke about the economic plan, was that the explanation you gave when you were asked why you returned without the check from the United States? Did the Americans not know the details of the plan before that? Did you have to travel there just for that?

[Moda'i] The way you phrased those questions was strange to me. Ture, we discussed the economic plan and its components in a dialogue that lasted for a long time. How do you get from there to the conclusion that I returned with or without a check? That is very hard for me to understand.

[Margalit] Did you return with the check?

[Moda'i] If I wanted to answer you with a direct reply, I would do so, but I have already answered you indirectly, and I know the efforts that have been made by certan circles here to explain that the trip was superfluous, the result negative, and so on.All I can say is that anyone who wants to, can know how the timing of that trip was determined and what its results were. If I am permitted to bear witness to its efficacy, the results of that visit were definitely all positive. To a certain extent, I will not say anything against the expectations or hopes of anyone, but certainly beyond the expectations, there were. I must say that I also had doubts during the trip, but if I have any doubts about the results of a fight that is essential for me, should I not enter into the fight?

[Margalit] Should I understand from your indirect reply that the check will arrive and there is no argument over it? Are the two professors of economics who, it has been reported, are arriving in Israel as part of this, coming to see what is happening in the field?

[Moda'i] No, they are not coming to see what is happening in the field. They are coming to cover another two or three points that we were unable to cover. This concerns data that we needed but which were simply not on hand. The Bank of Israel was also not in that dialogue, while it was in previous dialogues. We did not know exactly where the dialogue would lead, but the goal definitely was to conclude a dialogue on that trip. As soon as we realized that there were still two or three open questions, we knew we had to forego completion of the dialogue at that time — not regarding the final result, just regarding the completion. So we asked them to come, and look how quickly they came, really within a few days; they came today. At the beginning of next week we will conclude the issues that remain open. They will go back to the United States and then the conclusion will be complete and full.

[Margalit] What do the Americans actually want?

[Moda'i] The Americans, if my impression is correct, want to guarantee that there is an economic recovery in the State of Israel, and, for that purpose, they are prepared to help again, to increase the aid, and exert every other effort. What they do not want, I can tell you, is to continue to channel economic aid here in addition to the military aid. As you know, there is no military security without economic security; you cannot separate them. However, what they would like is to guarantee that their aid is effective and will one day come to an end.

[Margalit] Practically speaking, what are they saying? How, in their view, will that day come? Are they demanding cuts, are they demanding unemployment, what are they saying?

[Moda'i] They are not demanding anything, but I would not have had to travel to the United States if you had listened to me here in Israel, about what needs to be done, before and after I became finance minister. That, also, is not my invention, but the result of study, reading, and followup, something they also do constantly. Then you would have known why the Americans are proposing many of the same things to us. They did not invent the wheel. What I, or we, did in our latest dialogues is try to explain that several of the measures or moves that are theoretically correct and also, apparently, practical, do not suit Israeli reality in many ways. Those sections of Israeli reality cannot be changed, at least not immediately.

[Margalit] What happens then?

[Moda'i] Then one does the maximum that can be done given thereality in which you work, and if you become convinced that the maximum you can do is sufficient to bring you to a level above the mire — true, not at the mountain peak, but outside the mire — of course, afterward you will have to begin to climb up the mountain. That is as clear as day. However, as long as you are in the mire, of course, all you can do is to continue to sink.

[Margalit] Do the Americans understand that?

[Moda'i] After my latest visit I am convinced that they do.

[Margalit] That is, would you say their pressure will decrease on things they want that we cannot do?

[Moda'i] There was no pressure. The Americans — it seems to me that you put matters incorrectly — did not ask us for anything. It was us who asked from them, as you know. So what pressure? I do not understand. You go to someone, to his home, and he tells you: Sir, do not go into that room, go into this one. Is that pressure?

[Margalit] However, they have their own ways to heal an economy. As you also say, we cannot always do what they think is right, because we see things differently.

[Moda'i] Yes, that is true.

[Margalit] Do they accept that?

[Moda'i] They accept it; that is the Israeli reality.

[Margalit] The question is whether they accept that, that is, will they accept and say fine, we will give you aid because you are doing what you are capable of, although in our view it could, perhaps, have been done differently?

[Moda'i] Apart from those portions regarding the approval for aid, all the rest I can confirm . On that other portion, I am not permitted to speak because it was at the very conclusion.

[Margalit] However, that is actually the main thing?

[Moda'i] Well, you cannot imagine that I would sit here and speak about all the things around it without the main thing existing.

IMF Delegation Recommends Further Budget Cuts

TA181620 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1500 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The economic measures that the government has taken have led to a relative improvement in the economic situation, particularly in the balance of payments; however, these are not sufficient, an IMF delegation has determined following a 2-week visit to Israel. The delegation has submitted its main conclusions to the governor of the Bank of Israel. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that in the delegation's opinion, at least another $1 billion must be cut from the state budget in order to achieve a real improvement.

Shift Noted in Jewish-Arab Demographics in Jerusalem

TA190832 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
19 Mar 85 p 2

[Report by Abraham Rabinovich]

[Text] Despite the constructions of massive Jewish neighbourhoods in Jerusalem since 1967, the percentage of Arabs in the city's population has risen steadily, according to recently published census figures.

Prof Arye Shahar, of the Hebrew University, told the Jerusalem Committee yesterday that the percentage of Arabs in Jerusalem rose from about 26 per cent in 1967 to about 29 per cent in the 1983 census. The urbanologist said this "slight but systematic" shift could be a major political consideration in future planning.

In an interview afterwards, Shahar noted that much Jewish settlement has recently been on the city's periphery rather than in Jerusalem itself. Maintaining the 1967 Jewish-Arab ratio has been a major goal in the government's planning for the capital. The committee, an advisory body, is meeting in the capital in its sixth plenary form, to discuss the future of Jerusalem up to the year 2000.

The population of united Jerusalem grew by 160,000 or 60 per cent in the 16 years following 1967. While the Jews increased by 57 per cent, the Arabs increased by 72 per cent. But the rate of increase has fallen sharply for both recently, partly because of a declining birth rate.

Pointing to Jerusalem's negative migration balance since 1978, including losses to suburbs like Ma'ale Adummim, Shahar said the Arabs have also begun moving to the periphery where taxation and building laws are less stringent.

The ethnic origin of residents which previously distinguished non-Orthodox neighbourhoods from each other has given way steadily to differentiation by socio-economic status, said Shahar. "This is leading to a much more open and flexible structure," he said.

Minister Expects No Drastic Change in Status of Arabs

TA181535 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1442 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Minister 'Ezer Weizman says we should not expect a revolution regarding the government's policy vis-a-vis the Arab population. However, we should be attentive to the Arab population's problems; we should address them and expect to solve some of them.

Weizman was speaking in a meeting he held today in Yafo with community leaders who raised a long series of problems with the minister, particularly regarding education and housing. Yafo's imam asked the minister to act to curb extremism both in the Arab and Jewish sectors.

'Sources' Appraise Baghdad Meeting of Arab Leaders

TA190842 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
19 Mar 85 pp 1, 2

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Excerpt] Following the meeting Mubarak and King Husayn held with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Jerusalem political sources yesterday estimated that Mubarak's initiative could now win a renewed impetus and additional backing. Iraqi support, in their view, might encourage Husayn to press 'Arafat to make his positions more flexible and further the negotiations with Israel.

It is assumed that U.S. envoy Richard Murphy, who is due in the area for another round of talks at the end of the month, will examine the possibility of also harnessing Iraq to the peace process. Baghdad's joining the process would increase the pressure on Israel to make its positions more flexible.

Editorials View Mubarak-Husayn Visit to Baghdad

TA190932 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Review of midday press editorials]

[Text] *MA'ARIV* believes that no hasty conclusions should be drawn from the unscheduled visit to Baghdad by the Egyptian President and the Jordanian king. No new Cairo-Amman-Baghdad axis has been formed yet, and for the moment it is difficult to think of any role for Iraq to play in the Egyptian President's peace initiative, which is facing the main obstacle of composing the Palestinian delegation. On this, Mubarak and Husayn do not seem to agree. Perhaps the surprise visit to Baghdad was intended to divert attention from the lack of progress in the attempts to form that delegation.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT writes that Egypt and Jordan may have tried to enlist Iraq's support for the Mubarak initiative, but this process is not to Israel's liking because, in Amman, Mubarak and Husayn emphasized that the PLO should be incorporated within a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. This demand will be unacceptable to any Israeli Government, and it is to be hoped that Washington, too, will reject it.

Commentary Examines IDF Withdrawal From Lebanon

TA151354 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
15 Mar 85 p 11

[Commentary by Yo'el Marcus: "Let Logic Prevail"]

[Text] This week's most mystifying remark must undoubtedly be that of the prime minister who declared that "the Shi'ites are not Israel's enemy." However, we will not admonish him for it because, after all, not only the public and the media but our leadership as well express themselves and act emotionally. Remarks such as "eliminate the Shi'ite leadership," "give them hell," "a hasty exit is not the solution," "there is no need for panic," "we should not show weakness," "we should withdraw completely," "we should not withdraw completely," "we should get out but remain in a security strip," and the like, are evidence that even the nation's leaders have lost their way. However, where there is emotion one also runs the risk of not making balanced decisions. Especially now, when common sense is needed more than ever, it is better to allow for a logical analysis of the cold facts.

In order to make a logical analysis and the decisions that would come from such an examination, courage is needed primarilyto admit to and acknowledge the sorry fact that the myths we believed in have totally collapsed:

1. The myth that terrorism can be eliminated by military force has been completely shaken. We will have to live with terrorism in its various forms and intensities until the political problems that created it are solved. There is no other way to avoid it.

2. The myth that says that once the PLO is driven out, Lebanon will cease to be a base for terrorism, has collapsed. What has happened is very simple: One form of terrorism was replaced by another. (Regarding myths: Why did our Arabists, who are usually expounding their expert views before every microphone and who know so much so well, not predict the possibility of a Shi'ite national revival in Lebanon?)

3. The myth that peace in the Galilee would be ensured by a 40-45 kilometer security zone has dissolved. There is no chance for such control. They are even attacking us from within the 1st kilometer from the Israeli border. From this it can be concluded that even the minimal aim of the war — preventing katyushas from falling — has not been and will not be achieved. Theoretically, accidental and intentional katyusha attacks cannot be prevented.

4. The myth that an agreement can be reached with the Shi'ites has been shattered. This assumption was what caused the government then led by Yitzhaq Shamir to reject a plan for a partial withdrawal, and as a result many precious months were lost.

5. The myth that a beefed-up army of southern Lebanon would do on a large scale what Major Haddad did on a small one has collapsed. Everyone knows that this force is weak, and it is doubtful whether we will be able to depend on it the way we depended on Haddad and his troops.

6. The myth that UNIFIL would fulfill some positive role in obstructing forces acting against Israel has been shaken. Once it became clear that there was no chance of stationing UNIFIL as a buffer north of the Al-Awwali River, defense officials lost all interest in UNIFIL and are not even interested in its mandate being renewed.

In light of these shattered myths, common sense tells us that from now on time is working cruelly against us. There are four reasons for this:

First, every additional day that the IDF remains in Lebanon simply helps the Shi'ites to shape and build their forces and strength. While our soldiers have no motivation at the moment in Lebanon, the Shi'ites are engaged in a war on their own soil against not only a political but also a religious enemy, a war in which they will become more and more effective. How many times will we continue to cry that "only by a miracle" has some disaster or another been avoided? Our withdrawal will cause most of the Shi'ite organizations to turn their attention inward. (We should not, however, rule out the possibility that even a single Shi'ite fanatic could reach the center of Tel Aviv. When a fighter is prepared to commit suicide, he is not worried, as the ordinary infiltrator is, about a getaway.) Not only will they be busy trying to gain control in Lebanon, but it is definitely possible that they will have to deal with the Syrian Army.

Second, our so-called "heavy-handed" operations in Lebanon will soon turn world public opinion against us. It will not be long before the whole world talks about the cruelty of our soldiers instead of that of the Shi'ites.

Third, the argument that with time we will gain that which we did not gain by halting the withdrawal is unfounded. What we have not ensured up until now cannot be ensured in another 6 months.

Finally, reasons such as "honor," "showing weakness," and the like will not change with time. We have already lost our honor in Lebanon and, in any event, we will not be leaving victoriously or from a position of power. Moreover, it is almost certain that in another 4 or 5 months, our honor will be trampled on more than it is today, despite what such well-known generals as Minister Corfu and Knesset Member Sarid say.

Hence, common sense tells us that lacking even one reason, standing the test of a cold analysis, and justifying the prolongation of the withdrawal over months, there is no choice but to return to the way things were before June 1982. This means creating a very narrow strip of a few kilometers that would be as empty as the Jordan Rift Valley. I would not be surprised if from this area we were to expel tens of thousands of Shi'ites who returned to their villages in southern Lebanon through the great kindness of Messrs Begin and Sharon. Such a strip would be a type of "no-man's-land" through which we will be able, from Israeli territory, to keep an eye on terrorist infiltrations. This move can and should be made together with the third stage of the withdrawal shorty after Passover [6 to 12 April].

A clear-minded analysis of the situation makes it difficult to understand why this cannot be done. The Army is dying to get out of Lebanon; the public, also, is in favor of a withdrawal. A majority in the government is, in principle, in favor of a complete

exit. It is hard to imagine that many people will dare get out of line if the prime minister strongly persists in his point of view. All that needs to be done is for Shim'on Peres, instead of philosophizing and using expressions such as "there is no need to panic," to show his leadership, bang on the table, and say: That is enough, not another day longer.

ALGERIA

President Bendjedid Meets Iran's Velayati

LD182320 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The Iranian minister of foreign affairs is in Algiers. He was received by President Chadli Bendjedid, to whom he conveyed a message from President Khamene'i.

Minister of Public Health Houhou has gone to Baghdad with a message for President Saddam Husayn.

PRC's Zhang Jingfu Arrives in Algiers 17 March

LD171231 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] Algiers 17 Mar (APS) — Zhang Jingfu, the PRC's state councillor and vice premier, arrived in Algiers yesterday evening on a 5-day visit to Algeria.

In a statement to the press, the Chinese state councillor said that his visit to Algeria will be an opportunity to discuss with Algerian officials Algerian-Chinese cooperation, particularly the joint commission which will hold its first session shortly.

Zhang Jingfu added that both the Algerian and the Chinese peoples established close ties during their joint struggle against imperialism and colonialism and that we shall now work to strengthen the South-South cooperation even more.

Zhang Jingfu will see a number of agricultural and economic achievements. He will also hold talks with several ministers and will be received by Abdelhamid Brahimi.

Joint Commission Meets

LD181134 Algiers APS in English 1002 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Algiers, 18-3-85 (APS) — The works of the first session of the Algero-Chinese joint commission started yesterday in Algiers under the chairmanship of Abdelaziz Khellef, minister of trade, and Zhang Jingfu, Chinese deputy prime minister.

The works of this commission were marked by the interventions by the two ministers who expressed their satisfaction with the solid relations which link the two countries even before independence and which have been wrought out during the Algerian revolution when China adopted a position of support by the Algerian sides. [sentence as received]

These good relations were carried on in the same by way in the aftermath of independence and fit in to the (?successful) traditions of the two countries. The bilateral relations were reinforced especially when President Bendjedid made a visit in April 1982 in China, a visit which was centered on cooperation and economic and commercial, technical and cultural exchanges between the two countries and the results which crowned the visit in December 1982 by the Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang in Algeria.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Calls Bendjedid on Pan-Arab Command

LD182238 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] A telephone conversation between the brother leader of the revolution and the Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid was held today in which confirmation was made of the meeting to be held on 20 March in Damascus concerning the establishing of a strategic Arab unity among Libya, Algeria, Syria and the PDRY, the unity which the brother leader called for in his speech on the 8th anniversary of the establishment of people's authority and the birth of the first Jamahiriyah in history, which also included the announcement of the establishment of the Pan-Arab Command in confrontation with U.S. imperialism and Zionism.

It is worth noting that telephone contacts were also held between the brother leader of the revolution and the presidents of the YAR and the PDRY.

Al-Murabitun Enrolls in Pan-Arab Command

LD170149 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] The independent Nasirite movement — Al-Murabitun — declared its enrollment in the Pan-Arab Command of the Arab world's revolutionary forces. This was stated in a cable Al-Murabitun head, Brother Ibrahim Qulaylat, sent to the brother leader of the revolution.

The cable reads: "Your revolutionary pan-Arab announcement for the establishment of a framework of pan-Arab action through the formation of a Pan-Arab Command to lead the revolutionary foces is an affirmation of the continuity of the committed pan-Arab revolutionary forces' will which smoothly integrates with the 1 September Revolution's course in confronting every challenge to our national and pan-Arab issues, mainly the the Palestinian issue."

The cable affirmed that the Pan-Arab Command, which will lead the Arab world's revolutionary forces, will form the true formula capable of confrontation and development in the struggle against the Zionist enemy and American imperialism.

Iraqi National Democratic Front Joins Command

LD172302 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Text] The Iraqi National Democratic Front has sent a cable to the brother leader of the revolution announcing that it has joined the Pan-Arab Command for Leading the Revolutionary Forces in the Arab Homeland.

YAR Foreign Minister Arrives in Tripoli 18 March

LD182005 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Tripoli, 18 Mar (JANA) — Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani, YAR deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Tripoli this evening on visit of several days to Libya during which he will hold talks about ways of consolidating bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries.

Dr al-'Iryani told JANA's correspondent that his visit comes within the framework of continuous consultation between the brother leader of the revolution and Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the YAR, whether on the bilateral level or the Arab and Islamic level.

MAURITANIA

Banned Student Union Resumes Activities

AB170927 Paris AFP in English 0720 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Nouakchott, March 17 (AFP) — The Mauritanian National Student Union, banned for the past year, announced resumption of activities Saturday and its president, Hamoud Ould Abdy, called for full participation in a national literacy campaign launched in January.

Leaders of the union, including Mr Ould Abdy, were freed from jail after President Khouna Ould Haydala was overthrown last December 12 by the new regime of President Maayouia Sid Ahmed Ould Taya. The union had been banned after unrest in schools which the former regime said was inspired by Libya.

MOROCCO

King Hassan Delivers Speech in El Aaiun 17 Mar

LD180350 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1950 GMT 17 Mar 85

[Speech by King Hassan II to the joint meeting of the Royal Consultative Council for Sahara Affairs and the Regional Economic Councils of the Southern Region at the cultural and social complex in El Aaiun — live]

[Excerpts] People said and are saying; people wrote and are writing; they will always say and will always write that Morocco did not demand the Sahara because of the relationship between the Moroccan and Saharan people. Morocco did not do so out of its desire to liberate its sons — the sons of the Sahara, but because the Sahara possesses wealth that Morocco covets.

I must tell you that the Sahara's wealth, wherever it may be found, will go to the Sahara first and then to the north. [prolonged applause] I do not have to tell you what you have — fishing on a minor scale and phosphate. So that my words will not remain mere words without application, I must tell you that it has been decided to establish a Sharifienne Bureau for Phosphate for the Saharan province. [prolonged applause]

Among the members of the larger Sharifienne Bureau for Phosphates — and this will always meet in El Aaiun — will be Saharans whom we will choose from either the parliament or from your esteemed Consultative Council. They will be members of parliament and will be able to see their phosphate being sold, the sale of which will generate revenue for various projects. [prolonged applause] Whenever the fisheries sector is expanded the major portion of the revenue derived from that sector will naturally go to this region.

Do not forget that planning will make Moroccans equal before the law, for taxation purposes, as far as sacrifices and services are concerned. One may believe we intend to create two Moroccos; however, this is not true. You lagged behind more than enough under colonialism. [applause] [passage indistinct] We have iron in Sahara whose value is far better than the metals in Tindouf [in Algeria, where iron ore mines are located, whose ownership is contested by both Morocco and Algeria] [applause] Tomorrow, God willing, we will find the wealth and develop our country which will benefit both you and your brothers in the north.

The Royal Consultative Council should hold meetings with the government's secretary general and the legislative bodies of the Secretariat General as soon as possible in order to establish fishing and phosphate bureaus which will stem from the ministries or the bureaus in Rabat. When everything is prepared it is to be submitted to the government for study from the organizational aspect and it will then be submitted to us. If approved, it will be sent to the Parliament for approval. God willing, it will then become applicable and firm laws, which will also be capable of development with the passage of time. [applause] The Consultative Council should appoint a bureau that does not include parliamentary representatives, as the latter are engaged in political matters. [passage indistinct]

Gentlemen, my dear people; Almighty God wished us to live under colonialism and then later to liberate our country. [passage indistinct] We must realize that our plans require great efforts and sacrifices. We must develop our Army. We must prepare. [passage indistinct] Civilian Moroccans should (?join) the ranks of the Royal Armed Forces [applause]. They are now ready [words indistinct]. [passage indistinct]

We must realize that all of this compels us to develop our weapons, first, and secondly, that Morocco, like all other states, has constitutionally mandated its head of state to be the commander of its Armed Forces. Morocco has always been from the era of the Idrisis — constitutionally or otherwise — a country whose king is the commander of its forces. [applause] Therefore, this means that if a tragedy takes place, God forbid, [words indistinct] it will fall on your number one servant, and I do not believe, dear people, that you hope your number one servant will be [words indistinct] in history a tragedy befallen Morocco. [applause]

Therefore, as the first person responsible and as the first soldier [words indistinct] means of supply. (?We must) develop the Army [words indistinct]. [applause] According to our accounts I have nothing to conceal because defense concerns all Moroccans. [passage indistinct]. I do not care what a foreign radio might say

since I pursue an open policy. Therefore, all will know whenever there is something concerning an arms deal with another country since I have nothing to hide. I need 5 years and one billion dollars [currency not specified] divided over those 5 years. No more, no less. To provide the Armed Forces — land, and Air Forces, and the Navy — with what they need will be in accordance with their tasks and to the appropriate level of technology and the new century which we will welcome in 14 years. I, once more stress my happiness to be here. [applause]

SUDAN

President Relieves Economic Adviser of Post

JN191117 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1100 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Khartoum, 19 Mar (SUNA) — President Numayri today issued a decree relieving Dr 'Umar al-'Ubayd Bilal from his post as economic adviser to the president. President Numayri had issued a decree appointing Bilal economic adviser on 8 December 1984.

Numayri Doubles Government Employees' Wages

EA182357 Juba Sudan Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] The president of the Republic, Jaf'ar Muhammad Numayri, has directed the execution of the wages project and regulations of employment. The project is to be executed gradually beginning with a 50 percent rise in salaries as from 23 March this year. This rise will go to 70 percent at the beginning of the next hegira [Islamic year], that is, from September this year, and to 100 percent as from the year 1986.

The directives were given at a meeting at the Friendship Hall chaired by the president and attended by the minister of finance and economic planning, Dr 'Abd al-Rahman 'Abd al-Wahhab; the minister in the Presidency in the General Secretariat, Mr Muhammad al-Hasan Ahmad; and secretary of the High Council for National Economy. [as heard]

Speaking to the press after the meeting Mr al-Hasan said that the meeting reviewed the main features of the report of the salary committee and that of regulations of employment. He said: President Numayri acquainted himself with the changes and proposals contained in the report. The president noted that although the report recommended some changes, it failed to specify sources of financing the cost of executing the salaries structure and the regulations of service. The report also failed to give a detailed plan to stop price rises.

Mr al-Hasan explained that the minimum wage would be raised from 510 Sudanese pounds to 720 per annum and that the implementation of the project costs 163 million pounds.

On the other hand, Mr al-Hasan said that President Numayri also revealed that procedures to increase transport allowance to employees in the light of the current prices of fuel. [as heard] The new rate of allowances, the president directed, must be effective as from the date the fuel prices were increased. The president pointed out that when the new transport allowance comes into force, those getting 25 pounds will get 35; those getting 15 would get 25; and employees in the regions getting 9 pounds will then get 15.

Outlaws Attack Church in Upper Nile, Kill Priest

JN191435 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1418 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Juba, 19 Mar (SUNA) — Outlaws recently attacked a church in the Adong area on the outskirts of the city of Al-Nasir in the Upper Nile Region and assassinated the Reverend (Masiu Paul). A military source added that the People's Armed Forces confronted the remnants of the outlaws who fled, leaving behind several killed and some weapons. The source pointed out that the body of the Reverend (Paul) was buried in the church yard.

TUNISIA

Prime Minister Cited on 'Fundamentalism'

LD181614 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Excerpt] During his recent stay in France, Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali had occasion to bring up two subjects that are particularly sensitive at the moment: the dangers presented by the wave of fundamentalism in Tunisia and the question of the return to the country of workers who had emigrated to France. Here is his feeling about fundamentalism as expressed during a debate organized yesterday evening by RTL and *LE MONDE:*

[Begin recording] [words indistinct] We have always fought and we are fighting against fanaticism, extremism, ideological extravagance. We are all Sunnis, Malikite Sunnis into the bargain, and we have traditions of tolerance. If there are young people in Tunisia who call for a return to the source, who refuse to apprehend directly certain economic and social problems, certain aspects which they consider negative in the area of [words indsitinct] of society, and who recommend a return to the source, in my opinion, one should not worry. There will be no "Khomeyniism" in Tunisia. [end recording]

Foreign Minister on Talks With EEC's Delors

LD151039 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi met yesterday afternoon in Brussels with EEC Commission President Jacques Delors to discuss the EEC's position toward the safeguarding of the Mediterranean countries' ability to compete within the Common Market following its expansion.

Tunisia is seeking reassurances that it will be able to maintain the level of its agricultural exports, oil and wines, industrial exports, and textiles to EEC members after Spain and Portugal join the Community. This was reiterated by Essebsi to Delors during their meeting. He pointed out that any reduction of Tunisia's oil quota to the EEC will have serious repercussions on

the Tunisians, half of whom derive their living from these exports.

Essebsi and Delors affirmed that relations between Tunisia and the EEC should not be limited to trade, but should extend to cooperation in development.

Prior to his meeting with Delors, Essebsi held a press conference for foreign journalists attended by the Tunisian ambassador to Brussels, at which he affirmed that Tunisia wants to be a party to the EEC in the full sense of the word and not merely a country receiving aid. He said that Tunisia has already made a choice by cooperating with Europe, and in return it hopes that Europe will express its political will to preserve with us and the other Arab Maghreb countries relations of solidarity and traditional trade.

He said that Tunisia has distinguished relations with the EEC and is its principal ally and supplier. For this reason Tunisia regrets the current imbalance in trade — a matter which deserves full attention.

He pointed out that the problem goes beyond the question of Spain's inclusion in the EEC. This is because unfortunately the past agreement on cooperation has not been implemented either in letter or spirit. He added: The imposition of protectionism by the EEC has made the entry of our products into the European Community more difficult. Hence we should not focus on the question of the EEC's expansion though it will certainly contribute to the further compliction of the problems that developed prior to that, even at the time of Greece's joining the EEC, for which we paid a price.

With regard to the expansion of the EEC Beji Caid Essebsi said that our relations with Spain are good and long-standing. Furthermore, Spain's entry into the EEC is a purely European matter, he said. But on the other hand Europe has undoubtedly an opening on the Mediterranean. Spain's and Portugal's joining the EEC will help to widen this opening. He added that the security of the Arab Maghreb and Europe is closely linked and hence the countries of the northern and southern parts of the Mediterranean should organize the security of the region.

He expressed his fears that Europe may cause a disruption in the economic stability of the southern flank of the Mediterranean and thus create a condition which in the long term will harm Europe itself. In this connection he called for going beyond trade problems and for working henceforth on neutralizing the political course of future relations and discussing it prior to the completion of EEC expansion.

Replying to a question on relations among the Arab Maghreb member countries, Essebsi affirmed the need for greater Maghreb coordination vis-a-vis the European Community. He pointed out that the Maghreb countries must coordinate solidarity and exchanges among themselves. He added that the ability to hold dialogues with the various Maghreb countries, which Tunisia enjoys, will serve to achieve rapprochement among the neighboring countries and thus contain tension and remove any threat of a deterioration in conditions. He said that this can be attained within the framework of a summit conference to be held under the chairmanship of President Habib Bourguiba in his capacity as the dean of the heads of the Arab Maghreb countries. The principle of holding such a summit has been agreed upon; it only remains to set a date.

Regarding the rise of racism in Europe against Arab expatriates, Essebsi expressed his belief that the Europeans are right to be concerned over the question of unemployment and to think first of the interests of their citizens. But, he added, the measures adopted in this regard have been excessive and go far beyond the need for safeguarding work opportunities. He added that the Europeans must not forget that the expatriate workers have contributed to the prosperity of the European economy, a matter which gives them rights and duties alike. It is the right of these workers to enjoy security, he said.

With regard to the Middle East, Essebsi repeated his call to Europe to work for the establishment of peace in the region and to refrain from any action that is likely to encourage aggression and to make Israel persist in its actions which negate any peaceful solution. Essebsi expressed his regret at the U.S. veto in the Security Council, noting that this action unfortunately encourages the extremists and breeds violence.

With regard to the Gulf conflict Essebsi expressed his regret at Iran's obduracy and rejection of all peaceful initiatives. He said he hopes the joint initiative to be staged with the cooperation of President Mitterrand will lead to positive results and end this war which cannot be solved by military means.

Foreign Minister, Guinean Counterpart Hold Talks

LD161857 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Excerpts] A Tunisian-Guinean working session was held this morning at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and was presided over by Messrs Beji Caid Essebsi, the minister of foreign affairs, and his Guinean counterpart, Captain Facine Toure. The session was also attended by Mr Ahmed Ben Arfa, the secretary of state in charge of international cooperation, and Dr Mariama Dielo Barry, the Guinean minister for social affairs.

The Tunisian and Guinean sides stressed the importance of such meetings which enable the exchange of views about issues of joint interest. They expressed the political will of both countries to jointly pursue the means for consolidating the fraternal and friendship ties which connect them in order to establish stronger bilateral cooperation.

Mr Beji Caid Essebsi discussed the Arab Maghreb. He pointed out that Tunisia, which has good relations with all countries of the region, continues to work, under the leadership of its president, toward establishing a Maghreb group which will be a step toward Arab unity on the one hand, and African unity on the other, and which will be an important development in international relations. He said that through [words indistinct] efforts, we were able to remove the clouds and to open the door of dialogue among the people of the Maghreb. He added that the idea of holding a Maghreb summit is viable, even if the date is not fixed yet.

KENYA

60 Students Injured in 'Fracas' Face Possible Charges

LD152145 Nairobi KNA in English 1430 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Nairobi, Mar 15 — Sixty students injured during the 10 February fracas between university students and the antiriot police have not been charged in the court, an assistant commissioner of police Mr Kimando told the court hearing the case of five Nairobi university students today.

Mr Kimando is the fourth witness to testify in a case in which Messrs Julium Mwandawiro, Mohamed Mazrui, Maina Ndigirigi, Motende Getenga and Patrick Litunya Lumumba are jointly charged with participating in an unlawful assembly and refusing to obey a police order to disperse on 10 February this year. The assistant police commissioner told the court that some of the injured students were taken to hospital by policemen for treatment.

During cross-examination by Mazrui's lawyer, Mr Moses Wetangula, the police commissioner said those who got injured were among those who refused to disperse. Answering a question from the lawyer about the injured students being charged, Mr Kimando answered to the negative and said they may be charged later if the government wants.

Briefs

Cholera Deaths—Fourteen people have died of cholera in the last three weeks in Kisingati and Siu Islands of Fasa Division in Lanu District. Three others died in other divisions. This brings the total of cholera deaths this year in the district to 31. Last week a local official denied there was an outbreak of cholera in the area. [Summary] [*Nairobi STANDARD in English 15 Mar 85 p 1 EA*]

New Zimbabwean, Netherlands Envoys—President Moi today received credentials from the new Zimbabwean high commissioner to Kenya, Mr Edmund Oswald Zivanayi Chipamaunga, and the new Netherlands ambassador to Kenya, Mr Johan Fredrik Boddens Hosang, at State House, Nakuru. [Summary] [*Nairobi KNA in English 1550 GMT 18 Mar 85 EA*]

SOMALIA

Radio Halgan: DFSS Ambush Kills 10, Wounds 13

EA182115 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan In Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Units of the 9th General Aynanshe Division of the DFSS [Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia] wing of the Somali opposition forces burned a (PG) Fiat belonging to the Siad Barre forces. In the ambush, which took place outside the base of the 4th Brigade, the regime's forces also lost 10 soldiers dead and 13 others wounded. The DFSS fighters suffered no casualties.

TANZANIA

President Nyerere on Official Visit to UK

For Dar es Salaam reportage on the visit to the United Kingdom by President Julius Nyerere, including his meeting with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, see the United Kingdom section of the 19 March Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

BENIN

Gabonese Foreign Minister Arrives in Cotonou

AB182012 Dakar PANA in French 1730 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Cotonou, 18 Mar (ABP-BEN-PANA) — Gabonese minister of state for foreign affairs, Martin Bongo, arrived in Cotonou on Monday at the head of an important Gabonese delegation. In a statement to newsmen, Martin Bongo pointed out that he is bearer of a message from President Bongo to President Mathieu Kerekou. He stressed that his visit to Benin is aimed at strengthening ties between the two countries.

GHANA

Former Minister Returns From Exile in Burkina

AB182052 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Mr L.B. Tabasi, minister for the Upper Region in the Limann administration, has returned home from self-imposed exile in Burkina. He was received at Bolgatanga by the secretary for the Upper East Region, Mr J.E. Sakyi, who advised him to be law-abiding and help in the national recovery program.

Bulgaria To Ship Irrigation Equipment to Accra

AB182051 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] As her contribution toward Ghana's reconstruction program, Bulgaria is shipping several tons of irrigation equipment to the country. The consignment is expected soon.

The Bulgarian ambassador to Ghana, Mr Kostadin Gyaurov, announced this at the inauguration of the Brong-Ahafo region branch of the Ghana-Bulgaria Friendship Society at Sunyani. In an address read for him, he said Bulgaria is doing everything possible to consolidate the cordial relations between her and Ghana.

Mr Gyaurov, who is also the dean of the diplomatic corps, urged members of the branch to go into commercial farming, poultry and animal rearing to ensure the success of the country's green revolution. Such ventures will not only make the society self-supporting but also help to inculcate self-help spirit in the members.

The national president of the society is Dr Victor Narh. He reminded the members that it is not the inauguartion ceremony that matters but what they can do for the society and the country as a whole.

GUINEA

Conte Accepts Invitation To Visit DPRK

AB182055 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1945 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Colonel Lansana Conte, chairman of the Military Committee for National Redress, head of state and president of the Republic, today granted several audiences at the Palace of Nations. First, he received His Excellency Kim Chin-ki, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the DPRK to Guinea.

During the audience, Kim Chin-ki, head of the Korean diplomatic mission in Conakry, delivered a message of thanks from President Kim Il-song to his brother President Lansana Conte. Kim Chin-ki also announced that Korean experts in charge of the construction of a hydroelectric power station at the Kim Il-song Institute in Kindia have already arrived in the country and that equipment to start the construction work are also there. He spoke of some difficulties concerning, in particular, transportation for the personnel at the Kim Il-song Institute. The head of the Korean diplomatic mission renewed the invitation sent to President Lansana Conte by President Kim Il-song to visit the DPRK.

In his reply, the head of state, President Lansana Conte, said that the Guinean people and government appreciate the ties of friendship and the good relations of cooperation existing between Guinea and the DPRK. President Lansana Conte, who accepted in principle the invitation sent to him by President Kim Il-song, stressed that the Guinean authorities will do everything to strengthen and to develop relations of cooperation between the two peoples.

Militia To Be Disbanded, Military Reorganized

AB181646 Paris AFP in French 1219 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Conakry, 18 Mar (AFP) — The Guinean Government has decided to disband the militia, that is the former pretorian guard of Ahmed Sekou Toure's regime, and to have its elements absorbed by the regular Army, it was learned in Conakry today from a reliable source.

This decision, the same source indicated, was made last week at a meeting of chiefs of staff, presided over by Ousmane Sow, the secretary of state for national defense. The militia, which was under the direct command of Sekou Toure's ruling party, will be redeployed to the various services of the 9,000-man Army. The militia men, who were dispersed all over the country, were recently regrouped in Conakry following a government decision.

The decision to disband the militia, which would be announced in the near future by Colonel Lansana Conte, chairman of the Military Committee for National Redress (CRMN) and head of state, will be followed by a reorganization of the Army. In addition to the rehabilitation of the military camps, this reorganization will include the creation of military identity cards and measures aimed at putting an end to the confusion between the roles and uniforms of the various military services (land and Air Forces, Navy, militia, and gendarmerie), the same source added.

LIBERIA

Capital Punishment for Bribing Debt Collectors

AB182125 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The commander in chief and head of state, Samuel Kanyon Doe, has ordered the execution of any individual caught offering or receiving bribes during this week of debt collection. The head of state is quoted today as declaring this week as debt collection week, and has appointed a special task force to carry out the exercise.

The 11-man force includes 6 Army generals and is headed by the minister of national defense, Major General Gray D. Allison; Brigadier General Matthew Yancy is co-chairman. Other members are Lieutenant General Henry Dunbar, chief of staff; General Sandee Ware, deputy minister of posts and telecommunications; General Boima Barclay, deputy minister of health and social welfare; General Thomas Sackey, former aide-de-camp to the head of state; Major Jenkins K.V. Scott, minister of justice; Major Patrick Minikon, minister of national security; Colonel Edward Massaquoy, chairman, joint security; Mr Wilfred Kloss, director of police; and Lieutenant Colonel John Kama Bilmer of the Armed Forces of Liberia.

Announcing the move today, the head of state mandated the task force to collect all outstanding debts due to the Liberia Produce Marketing Corporation, the Liberia Petroleum Refining Corporation, the National Housing and Savings Bank, and real estate taxes due the government.

According to Dr Doe, amounts due to the mentioned corporations total about $70 million. He said indebtedness to government banks and public corporations could well be in the neighborhood of $150 million. He stressed that the task force should be vigilant in collecting every cent, even if it means confiscating the property of those who owe and cannot pay. The head of state said the task force should refuse bonds and deal on a cash basis. He further directed that all banks and public corporations which have problems in collecting their debts, should submit a note of delinquent customer to the task force.

Meanwhile the commander in chief has directed the chairman of the task force to immediately make public the names of all those affected under the current debt-collection campaign.

MALI

Foreign Minister Meets With PLO Delegation

AB181816 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The PLO delegation led by Ahmad Jibril, chairman Yasir 'Arafat's economic adviser, currently on a friendly and working visit to Mali, this morning held a working session at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Koulouba, with our minister of foreign affairs, Alioune Blondin Beye.

The agreement that was signed this morning by Mr Diego Ide is a simple economic and technical cooperation agreement which will strengthen the unflinching support of the Malian people and government for the noble cause of the Palestinian people, and will positively contribute to the strengthening of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Palestinian and Malian peoples. It will enable the implementation of an agricultural project and the opening of a permanent exhibition of products of the [name indistinct] firm in Bamako.

The two parties expressed satisfaction with the qualitative development of relations between the PLO and the Republic of Mali, which falls within the framework of Arab-African cooperation and is based on the principles of Islamic solidarity. They also expressed their firm desire to do everything possible to ensure the success of this friendly and brotherly cooperation based on the rules of mutual respect and reciprocal benefit. The Palestinian delegation leaves Bamako this afternoon.

Traore Receives Delegation

AB181902 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Excerpts] General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People and president of the Republic, received at 1330 and 1400 Pierre Claver-Danobe, deputy director of the United Nations Development Project, and Ahmad Jibril, Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's economic adviser.

Mali's firm and unflinching support for the Palestinian cause, under the auspices of the PLO, the brotherly greetings and thanks of Yasir 'Arafat to the head of state, and from the PLO to the Malian people, [words indistinct] and developments in the situation in the Middle East were at the center of the talks between the head of state and the PLO envoy. This is what the PLO envoy had to say after the meeting:

[Begin recording] [Jibril in Arabic followed by translation into French] I feel honored by the reception given me by the president of the Republic, to whom I delivered a message of brotherliness and friendship from the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, Yasir 'Arafat. The message is on the ties of friendship and cooperation between our two countries and on the areas in which this cooperation existing between our two brotherly countries can be strengthened.

The second part of this message is on the current situation facing the Palestinian people, a situation characterized by the intransigence of Israel, which continues to create problems for the Palestinian people.

[Unidentified reporter] Currently, There is talk about a Jordanian-Palestinian plan. What is it about exactly, and how does this plan intend to solve the Palestinian problem?

[Jibril] This agreement between the PLO and the Jordanian people is based on the friendly ties between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples. It is aimed at finding a political solution to the Palestinian problem and at harmonizing efforts for convening an international conference on the Middle East crisis in general, and on the Palestinian people in particular.

This agreement is also aimed at harmonizing the efforts of the Arab countries, and of the Islamic countries, to find a solution to the Palestinian problem, because the Palestinian issue is not merely an Arab and Palestinian one. It is also an Islamic issue, so Islamic countries must also try to find a solution to this problem. [end recording]

NIGERIA

Equatorial Guinean Vice Prime Minister Arrives

AB181611 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The vice prime minister of Equatorial Guinea, Lieutenant Colonel Fructuoso Nchama, arrived in Lagos today on 6-day official visit to the country. He was met on arrival at the Murtala Muhammed International Airport by the flag officer commanding Western Naval Command, Commodore Ebitu Ukiwe. Lt Col Nchama will pay a courtesy call on the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Major General Tunde Idiagbon, and all the service chiefs. Lt Col Nchama, who is his country's minister of defense, is expected to visit Kaduna, Jaji, Port Harcourt, and Makurdi.

Meets With Defense Minister

AB182148 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The Federal Military Government says it expects the hospitable treatment given to foreigners in the country to be accorded to her citizens abroad. The minister of defense, Major General Domkat Bali, expressed this view in Lagos today while exchanging views with his Equatorial Guinea counterpart, Lieutenant Colonel Fructuoso Nchama. Gen Bali told his guest that Nigeria was prepared to assist Equatorial Guinea in training her armed forces personnel.

Lt Col Nchama is the second high-ranking government functionary from Equatorial Guinea to visit Nigeria within a month. The first was the foreign minister, who came shortly after reports of renewed harrassment of Nigerians in that country.

The Federal Government had earlier protested strongly against the evil treatment of Nigerians in Equatorial Guinea and demanded a number of conditions for the restoration of confidence between the two countries.

Gambari Discourages Agreements With RSA

AB181335 Lagos NAN in English 1230 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Enugu, March 18 (NAN) — The minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, said in Enugu yesterday that Nigeria understood why Mozambique and other Frontline states went into an agreement with South Africa, but expressed the hope that other African countries would not follow suit. Speaking to newsmen, Dr Gambari said that Nigeria would, however, within its present resources, continue to aid Mozambique and other Frontline States to defend themselves against the apartheid regime. He said that two of the achievements of the present administration's foreign policy were ensuring the survival of the OAU by recognising the SADR and shifting the organisation's agenda from "sterile discussions" to more concrete issues.

Dr Gambari said that the welfare and protection of Nigeria came first, adding that the present administration had evolved "concentric circles" of interests which begin with Nigeria and extend to ECOWAS, Africa, and the rest of the world. He said that the country was making serious efforts to maintain good relations with Equatorial Guinea, Cameroon, and neighbouring countries because Africa was the "centre-piece" of its foreign policy. He said that discussions during the next OAU summit would centre on economic issues.

The minister, who is on a three-day visit to Anambra, will today deliver a lecture at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

SENEGAL

Opposition Party Critical of Economic Policy

AB181904 Paris AFP in English 1556 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Dakar, March 18 (AFP) — The government's policy on groundnut production has exacerbated Senegal's dependence on foreign powers and has left farmers impoverished, the country's leading opposition group charged here today.

The Senegalese Democratic Party said in a communique that all the government's economic predictions have been false, as most growers refuse to sell their crops through the official state apparatus, preferring a more lucrative "parallel" mechanism.

In the 1984-1985 growing season, according to the party, fewer than 200,000 tonnes of groundnuts were harvested, although the target was 600,000. Problems in the sector reflect "a crisis of authority and a crisis of confidence" in Senegal that result from a decision to rely on a single crop, reinforcing the country's dependence on foreign suppliers for essential goods.

TOGO

Joint Commission Meeting With Yugoslavia Begins

AB181857 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The first session of the Togolese-Yugoslav joint commission meeting opened this morning at the Rally of the Togolese People's [RPT] Hall in Lome. Komailly Bancana was there.

[Begin Bancana recording] Togo and Yugoslavia this morning opened the first session of the Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation in Lome. This commission was set up during President Eyadema's visit to Yugoslavia in October last year. The rapidity with which this commission has begun meeting is indeed a sign of the importance Lome and Belgrade attach to their relations of friendship and cooperation established by Presidents Eyadema, Tito, and Djuranovic. The large number of delegates present at the opening of the meeting this morning at the RPT Hall also shows how important this bilateral cooperation is.

The 13-member Yugoslav delegation was led by Federal Secretary of Foreign Trade Milenko Bojanic and includes experts from various sectors of activity, and some members of the Yugoslav Army. The Yugoslav ambassador to Togo was also present at the meeting.

The Togolese delegation to this first session was led by Barry Moussa Barque, member of the Political Bureau, minister of public works, mines and posts and telecommunications. It includes Koffi Walla, minister of rural development, Yaovi Adodo, minister of planning and industry, a group of senior officers of the Togolese Armed Forces led by Colonel [name indistinct], as well as representatives of various sectors of economic activity in our country.

Speaking this morning at the opening of the first session of the Togolese-Yugoslav joint commission meeting, Mr Barque first of all paid tribute to those who initiated this cooperation, that is, Presidents Eyadema, Tito, and Djuranovic. Mr Barque expressed satisfaction with the cooperation efforts between our two countries, implemented 20 years ago with the construction of the [name indistinct] dam, and the present construction of the Sokode-Kra high-tension line. The minister of public works, mines, and posts and telecommunications thanked the Yugoslav people for the interest they have been showing in our country's development and hoped that cooperation between our two countries would continue. He also assured the Yugoslav delegation of the desire and readiness of the Togolese to achieve great results at this session and the next in order to attain the objectives of the Togolese and Yugoslav presidents.

In his reply, the Yugoslav federal secretary of foreign trade, Milenko Bojanic, said he was happy to inaugurate the first session of the Togolese-Yugoslav Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation. He spoke at length about the desire of our two countries to cooperate, a desire which was shown especially during President Eyadema's visit to Yugoslavia. Finally, the Yugoslav envoy said he was sure that the Lome session would make it possible to examine all the elements that will contribute to the development of cooperation between Togo and Yugoslavia, and to examine all the possible areas of this cooperation. This meeting ends on Thursday. [end recording]

Eyadema Meets Delegation Head

AB181845 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Excerpt] General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the RPT [Rally of the Togolese People] and president of the Republic, this morning at the Lome presidential palace received in audience Milenko Bojanic, SFRY federal secretary for foreign trade. The Yugoslav minister, accompanied to the audience by the SFRY ambassador to Togo, his excellency Radivoje Petkovic, went to convey to the head of state, Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema, the greetings and the kindest regards of Mr Djuranovic, president of the SFRY Presidency. During the audience they discussed the meeting of the Yugoslav-Togolese joint commission, which opened this morning in our capital.

After the audience, Minister Bojanic spoke to newsmen. First, he expressed satisfaction for being received by the head of state, Gen Eyadema:

[Begin Bojanic recording in Serbo-Croatian fading into French translation] First, I would like to explain that the reason for my coming here with the Yugoslav delegation is to attend the first session of the Yugoslav-Togolese Joint Commission for Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation, which will take place in Lome. The commission was set up in line with the development of the political and (?economic) relations between the two countries. This commission can help in strengthening bilateral economic cooperation.

I had the honor to convey the greetings of Mr Djuranovic, president of the SFRY Presidency. The message I delivered contained the report on His Excellency Gen Eyadema's visit to the SFRY last October.

From October 1984 to date, several initiatives have been taken on both sides in the fields of economic, financial, technical, and cultural cooperation and these are the areas that will be examined in the next 2 days. I hope that the session of the joint commission will be successful and I thank you for your interest in the meeting. [end recording]

ANGOLA

Party Official Leaves for Maputo Information Meeting

MB181956 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] The People's Republic of Angola will attend a meeting of information ministers from the Portuguese-speaking African countries in Maputo, the capital of Mozambique. Accordingly, Comrade Roberto de Almeida, the party Central Committee secretary for ideology, this morning left for Maputo, where he will represent Angola. From Maputo, the Angolan official will leave for Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia, where he will take part at a meeting of OAU information ministers.

Savimbi Reads UNITA Anniversary Declaration

MB151053 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Central and Southern Africa 0600, 1200 GMT 15 Mar 85

[UNITA National Committee declaration on the 19th anniversary of the founding of UNITA read by UNITA President Dr Jonas Savimbi in Jamba on 13 March; broadcast in two installments — recorded]

[Excerpt] Free Land of Angola, 15 Mar (KUP) — Part 1: The path traveled by UNITA during 19 years of struggle for the country's freedom and independence.

On 13 March 1966 — 19 years ago — the first constituent congress of UNITA was held at Muangai, Moxico Province. Muangai is now within the territory that has been totally liberated by UNITA.

The creation of a third liberation movement in Angola when there were already two others in 1966 enjoying the OAU's recognition and logistical support from the neighboring countries of Zambia, Zaire, and Congo Brazzaville was based on two political philosophies to which we continue to adhere to this day:

1. To wage the liberation struggle from within our country amongst the people and soldiers so that the leaders could share sacrifices and hope with them. Until now there has been no other case like this in Africa's recent or past history. This is what distinguishes UNITA from all other liberation movements in Africa, giving it strength.

2. Faced with the vicissitudes this choice entailed, our fighters learned to trust their own resources and discovered their own organizing, mobilizing, and militant capabilities. They increased their mutual solidarity and were able to more strongly protect themselves from interference by friendly countries in their internal affairs. That is why — despite various setbacks that UNITA went through through the years, like the imprisonment of the UNITA president in 1967 in Zambia for attacks on the Benguela Railroad and his exile to Cairo, the abandonment of UNITA in 1976 by all its allies, and the country's occupation by the Cuban expeditionary corps with Russian arms — its struggle and hope remains unbroken.

UNITA's leadership deeply believes that man can, in any circumstance, make sacrifices and even accept death when he is consciously convinced that his cause is the most just of all causes. On this day and at this place, on behalf of the UNITA leadership, I wish to recall and invoke the names of our most distinguished comrades who gave their lives in the fight against Portuguese colonialism and now against Russian-Cuban imperialism to enable UNITA'S ideal to prevail forever.

We are here to renew before the public and world community our oath to continue our political, diplomatic, and military combat in order to realize the ideals of our mass movement. We inherited from our ancestors the will to fight foreign domination of our country. When we die, our young and our sons will continue the struggle for the liberation and dignity of the Angolan people.

Regardless of his disguise or name, the imperialist foreigner will always be fought in this country. Today, UNITA can protect itself and come out on top.

A total of 43 movements, including the Angolan National Liberation Front and the Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave, were created within Angola and the neighboring countries to combat Portuguese colonialism and the Soviet-Cuban imperialists supporting the MPLA. They vanished as the struggle against the Cubans intensified, leaving UNITA to defend, singlehanded, but vigorously, the flame of freedom in Angola.

The balance of our program is positive:

1. If we take into account the correlation of forces within the country, the MPLA is supported by more than 40,000 Cubans, 200 fighter aircraft, and more than 400 tanks and armored vehicles. The brigades of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola are trained by Cubans. Despite these statistics, UNITA retains combat initiative in the country and the MPLA remains totally on the defensive.

2. The plan to spread guerrillas throughout Angola has been fulfilled with the exception of arid Mocamedes [Namibe] Province. The people in the north of the country, that is, in Kuanza Norte, Uige, Bengo, Luanda, Zaire, and Cabinda, have welcomed our guerrillas and give them full moral and intelligence support.

3. The launching of urban guerrillas in Luanda is being methodically and judiciously prepared. Luanda is already encircled, and the MPLA Government has advised foreign diplomats not to travel beyond 25 km outside of Luanda.

4. While hunger in Africa has become the worst reality of the year, the areas liberated by UNITA produce enough food for its people and soldiers.

5. The diamond industry in Lunda Province has been reduced to a minimum. Foreign companies investing there are losing money. Coffee production was badly hit this year as a result of the deployment of UNITA forces in Uige Province and in the rest of northern Angola.

6. The MPLA Government relies solely on petroleum for its economic, political and diplomatic survival.

Today, as we release another lot of foreign technicians captured at the Kafunfu mines in December 1984, we would like to outline the firm policy which UNITA will pursue in the coming months for the sake of our liberation and respect for other human life:

A. We are not against Western economic interests, notably U.S. interests.

B. Today, as well as in the future, we would appreciate help from foreign companies intending to improve the economy of a free, democratic and peaceful Angola.

C. Foreign technicians still living in Angola should pay heed to our appeal and leave the country now. From now on, those captured — even of the same nationalities as the previous ones — will be release only after long and difficult diplomatic negotiations.

D. UNITA will continue to attack all infrastructures supporting our enemy in the economic, military, and political fields.

UNITA condemns the exagerated pressure being exerted by the West on South Africa for it may result on the rupture of the fragile balance of power in southern Africa which, in turn, shall give place to an uncontrolled violence that shall benefit the expansionist scheme of the Soviet Union.

If MPLA does not get courage to talk with UNITA on all the issues affecting our country such as the ending of the civil war, the withdrawal of all foreign troops from our country, and the formation of a government of national union in Angola, nothing, not even oil, will be able to avoid the collapse of the Luanda regime.

The future and the destiny of our country shall bear us out.

We have done it for 19 years on behalf of UNITA for the motherland.

The struggle triumphs, united we shall win.

UNITA's National Committee, the president of UNITA, Dr Jonas Melheiro Savimbi General.

Jamba, 13 March 1985.

The year of total mobilization against the Cubans for the defense of the territorial integrity of the country.

UNITA Issues Statement on Foreign Policy

MB160646 (Clandestine) KUP in English to Southern and Central Africa 0630 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Statement issued by the UNITA National Committee and UNITA President Jonas M. Savimbi in Jamba, Angola, on 13 March: "Our Foreign Policy"]

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 16 Mar (KUP) — 1. We continue to win more sympathy from European countries, from the government of President Ronald Reagan, and from African countries who have understood the weakness and the lies of MPLA on the internal situation of our country.

2. Those who are involved in the negotiations on Namibian independence must always be told that without UNITA no solution will be viable.

3. MPLA does not have any intention of sending away the Cubans for it is more than ever depending on them for the survival of its regime. What we can ascertain is that the Cubans in all the fronts are tired of the war and that they want to retreat.

4. The new secretary general of the Soviet Communist Party, Mikhail Gorbachev, should take advantage of the new era and find a political solution in Angola, for the military option has already failed.

5. All foreign forces present in Angola must leave. That is: Cubans, Russians, East Germans, in the same manner as South Africans in Cunene Province.

6. UNITA rejects the policy of racial discrimination wherever it may be practiced. But UNITA encourages the reforms being undertaken by President Botha with the hope that they will be extended to the South African blacks.

Savimbi Warns Portuguese on UNITA Representatives

MB160752 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] The leader of the UNITA movement of Angola, Dr Jonas Savimbi, says it will be a very grave matter if the Portuguese Government takes steps against UNITA representatives in Lisbon. In a Portuguese radio interview, Dr Savimbi said such steps would put at risk many Portuguese interests in Angola.

The Portuguese prime minister, Dr Mario Soares, said that his government is studying possible measures to stop the movement [word indistinct] to the Governments of Angola and Mozambique from carrying out propaganda campaigns from Portuguese territory. His remark came after pressure from Angola and Mozambique.

KUP Says Thousands in Concentration Camps

MB180923 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 18 Mar (KUP) — Worrying news has reached us from the Provinces of Benguela, Huambo, and Bie. We are told that the MPLA authorities intend to exterminate the residents of the above mentioned provinces. Thousands of men, women, and children were removed from their villages, leaving their ploughed fields and homes behind. They were then shoved by the thousands into concentration camps at Chipipa and Mungu. Without shelter and without hygienic conditions, these people are dying by the dozens everyday.

North in 'Turmoil'; UNITA Attacks Convoy

MB151031 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Northern Angola is going through a true state of turmoil resulting from the heavy fighting between UNITA's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola and Cubans and the MPLA's People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, which clearly demonstrates the fury and force with which UNITA is preparing itself to enter Luanda. Roads and railroads there are becoming impassable and movement is only possible within the urban centers.

Thus, the military convoys, which mix with civilian trucks, cannot leave towns without encountering landmines and constant FALA attacks. Accordingly, a truck convoy has been heavily attacked by UNITA combatants who were operating along the Lucala-Uige Road on the Camabatela-Samba Caju section.

BOTSWANA

Masire on Relationship With South Africa

PM181957 Paris LE MONDE in French 17-18 Mar 85 p 7

[Interview with President Quett Masire by Michel Bole-Richard — date and place not given]

[Excerpt] [Bole-Richard] Botswana is one of the countries which is most hostile to apartheid. How do you reconcile this with the fact that you have good trade relations with Pretoria, so much so that you buy most of your goods from South Africa?

[Masire] I think we must accept historical and geographical reality. We are South Africa's neighbor and, historically speaking, our roots and economies are linked. We cannot change this situation overnight. So we trade with and through South Africa, but we do not close our eyes to the apartheid system, because we think it is inhuman. I think that South Africa is aware that we do not voice our opinions with arrogance but out of conviction. We say that the system is bad not to offend South Africa but because we really think it is bad. It is easy to distinguish frivolous criticism from sincere criticism.

[Bole-Richard] You recently issued a communique referring to a threat of invasion by South Africa. Do you take this threat seriously?

[Masire] We take it seriously because South Africa made such threats against its neighbors such as Lesotho, Mozambique, and others.

[Bole-Richard] What can you do?

[Masire] We cannot do anything, because South African military might is far superior to what we can sustain. We have done nothing to offend that country. We did not authorize "freedom fighters" to operate from Botswana. Not only did we not let them do so, we prevented them.

[Bole-Richard] Will this threat influence your traditional policy of granting asylum to South African refugees, including ANC members? Would you submit to South African pressure calling for the expulsion of ANC fighters, as was the case in Lesotho?

[Masire] Everything we have done was done for humanitarian reasons. We are part of the international community, and we are merely following the recommendations of the Geneva Convention. We are the first to say that the less time they stay in our country the better. Ours is the first country of asylum. If other countries do not want them, we are forced to keep them.

[Bole-Richard] What is your government's attitude to South African pressures for the signing of a nonaggression pact? Do you still think it is unnecessary?

[Masire] We think it is unnecessary for us to sign such a pact because we are not at war with South Africa. Mozambique and other countries have been at war, so they should say: "Let us have a truce, make peace, and sign an agreement." This is pointless for us. South Africa wants us to prove our good faith, but this is not necessary because we have been neighbors for 100 years and we have never had a belligerent attitude.

Gaborone on Expectations, Implementation of Nkomati

MB151248 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1110 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Station commentary: "Nkomati a Year Later"]

[Text] The simmering differences between Mozambique and South Africa on the Nkomati Accord were high on the agenda of leaders of Frontline States in Lusaka, Zambia, last Friday. When Mozambique and South Africa signed the controversial peace accord on the banks of the Nkomati River on 16 March 1984, many African leaders were skeptical but were quick to appreciate the dilemma facing present-day Mozambique. The fear in some quarters in Africa and beyond was that the signing of a nonaggression pact would compromise Mozambique's commitment to the liberation struggle and thereby slow the momentum of opposition to the apartheid system. But many African leaders were prepared to give the accord the benefit of the doubt in the hope that it was worth more than the paper on which it was printed.

There was no doubt in the minds of many people that Mozambique had had more than its fair share of political violence since its independence in 1974 [year as heard]. The economy was reeling under the severe strain due to the tapestry of violence which includes sabotage to the economy and disruption of the telecommunications network. But now, a year after Nkomati, the situation is no better than it was in March 1984. In fact, it is generally believed that Mozambique is facing a more formidable military pressure than it was a year ago. The opponents of the government appear to be updated with military supplies, and opinion in Mozambique is hardening against South Africa.

Mozambican leaders, including President Samore Machel, Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano, and the country's chief negotiator with South Africa, Major General Jacinto Veloso, put the blame squarely on South Africa for the escalation of banditry. They are convinced that, one way or another, South Africa is cheating. Recently, Mr Machel told African diplomats in Zambia that he believed the Nkomati Accord was a failure.

The current anxiety in Mozambique is illustrated by a flood of diplomatic activity. Within the last 2 months, President Machel has met two African leaders in addition to briefing a summit of the Frontline States. The Nkomati Accord dominated the Sao Tome summit of Portuguese-speaking Africa in mid-February. Yet, there appears to be no end to the violence spearheaded by the Mozambique Resistance Movement.

Observers believe that, having pushed Mozambique so far, South Africa is convinced that Maputo is capable of paying a bigger price for peace. AIM says feeling is high both in official and unofficial circles that South Africa has not respected the accord because it saw it as a mere tactic — a first step in a grand plan, the goal of which is to force Mozambique to accept power-sharing with the MNR.

It will be added that South Africa could be keen to subdue Mozambique so that it would abandon its political philosophy. Yet, in agreeing to sign the accord, Mozambique sacrificed some of its dearest principles. It has earned the wrath of not only the ANC but other forces within Africa including some of its friends in the OAU. Some have actually accused it of capitulation.

The ball is now in South's Africa court. It must arrest Mozambique's diminishing confidence in Nkomati by living up to its protestation of good intentions.

AIM sums up the mood in Mozambique in this way: The Pretoria regime has shown that it is not a serious partner in an agreement of this nature.

LESOTHO

ANC Condemns Killing of Security Force Member

MB151208 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] The secretary general for the African National Congress, ANC, said today that the ANC has learned with deep shock the news that one of its members has killed a member of the security forces of Lesotho.

Mr Alfred Nzo personally condemned this inexcusable act and pledged their full cooperation to ensure that the law takes its course. He said the ANC harbors deep respect and admiration for the Kingdom of Lesotho and will do everything in its power to ensure that the relations between the ANC and the people of Lesotho are not harmed through the irresponsible actions of certain individuals. He said they extend their heartfelt condolences to the family of the deceased, to all his colleagues, as well as the government and people of Lesotho.

MOZAMBIQUE

Private Security Guards To Defend Key Installations

MB171121 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 17 Mar 85 p 2

[By Brian Pottinger and Wim Vanvolsem]

[Text] A corps of private security guards — likely to number several hundred — is to be established in Mozambique to defend key installations against rebel attacks.

The move — hinted at by Foreign Minister Pik Botha yesterday — is an attempt by Mozambique and South Africa to escape the mutual political embarrassment of having regular SADF [South African Defense Force] combat troops in Mozambique. It is also an attempt by Pretoria to forestall increasing Western pressure on South Africa for a military commitment in defence of Nkomati.

Plans to establish a private security corps have been under consideration for some time and Escom [Electricity Supply Commission] is understood to be recruiting men to protect the Cahora Bassa powerlines frequently sabotaged by MNR rebels.

At a press conference in Pretoria yesterday, Mr Botha rejected suggestions that regular SADF combat units should be sent to Mozambique but raised the possibility of the creation of private security corps to guard powerlines and installations.

The calling in of professional soldiers to guard installations is a mark of the critical situation in which the Nkomati Accord — a year old yesterday — finds itself.

This week South African and Mozambican delegations met for talks which were described as "make-or-break" for the accord.

The Mozambicans apparently told the South African delegation that they were worse off now than a year ago and they believed the rebels were still being supplied from South African territory — although not necessarily with the Government's knowledge.

The South Africans countered with charges that top Mozambican Government spokesmen were continually making unhelpful public statements. The South Africans believed Mozambique was still giving diplomatic and moral support to the African National Congress — a breach of the spirit of the Nkomati Accord.

Implementation of Nkomati Accord Viewed

RSA Motives Doubted

MB160731 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0504 GMT 16 Mar 85

["A Date in History" program]

[Excerpts] It was a year ago on the banks of Nkomati River. It seemed like a hole where the heat of the whole world had accumulated. The bush, which shortly before then had covered the whole area, gave way to a small town of camping huts, including even a small railroad station. There were seats divided in three parts, one for Mozambican and South African guests, the other one for Mozambican guests only, and the third one for South African guests only.

Everywhere newsmen wanted interviews and photographs and wrote reports to inform the peoples of the two countries and the world at large of the event taking place on that piece of land that is regularly flooded by Nkomati River waters. For better or for worse, a year ago, history was being made on the banks of the Nkomati.

Under the half-civilized camping huts on the overlying hillside and everywhere in both countries where radio reaches and television was available, persons would stop to ponder the significance of the official event which was taking place.

The accord signed in that small hut built exactly astride the borderline should have meant peace — the peace that both peoples on either side of the border year for. It should have meant peace first because that was what was written in the text that the two presidents signed. It should have meant peace because that was what the two leaders stressed in the speeches that they made after signing the accord. However, after a year peace has not yet been achieved in Mozambique. As has been clear to the whole world and has been stressed in the recent meetings of the Frontline States and the five Portuguese-speaking African countries, Mozambique has scrupulously implemented that which it pledged to do by President Samora Machel's signature.

Pieter Botha's signature has not been equally honored. When it was reasonable to expect the dismantling of training camps of armed bandits inside South Africa, it is known that these camps were not dismantled. When the letter and spirit of the accord called on the South African Government to make its border with Mozambique inviolable to the bandits, we have information of daily incursions by bandits who from their camps enter Mozambique to commit the most inhuman crimes, after which they return to safety behind the South African border.

During this year, on various occasions South African leaders have publicly made statements saying that they wish to implement the accord.

As we have clear evidence that the accord is not being implemented, we have the following doubt: The South African Goverment does not want to implement the accord that it signed or, if it does, it lacks the political resolve to do so.

Interests of Imperialism Clear

MB170959 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0605 GMT 17 Mar 85

[From the "Armed Forces Voice of Combat" program]

[Text] A year ago, a nonaggression and good-neighborliness accord was signed on the banks of the Nkomati River on the border between Mozambique and South Africa providing for peace and tranquillity in our territory.

Signed by the heads of state of South Africa and the People's Republic of Mozambique, respectively Pieter Willem Botha and Samora Machel, the accord became known as the Nkomati Accord.

At the time, hopes of ending South African-backed armed violence against our country overflowed in the hearts of millions of Mozambicans, who experienced an endless series of wars.

After 20 years of struggle against colonialism and imperialist aggression, there were rekindled hopes of rebuilding the nation in peace and tranquillity. On the occasion, both governments undertook to observe the accord. They would not resort to armed violence to resolve their problems, and they would not allow their territories to host aggressive forces intending to carry out violent actions in each other's territory.

Toward that end, a joint commission was created to supervise the implementation of the various clauses of the accord. Nonetheless, a year after the signing of the Nkomati Accord, our territory continues to be the target for destabilization actions carried out by various imperialist forces conniving with the apartheid regime, the very signatory of the Nkomati nonaggression and good-neighborliness accord. Just a month after the signing of the accord, aircraft coming from South Africa flew over our territory and dropped arms and logistical equipment for the armed bandits.

Our border was violated by a number of night flights from South Africa. They were witnessed by our comrades in Gaza, Inhambane, and Maputo, among other provinces.

Thus the conclusion that the South African Government's much vaunted desire to restore peace to this zone of southern Africa has not yet been matched with concrete results. This amounts to a failure to observe a compromise signed before the whole world.

When, after a year, the armed conspiracy against the People's Republic of Mozambique takes on great proportions, the interests of international imperialism — headed by South Africa — in Mozambique become increasingly clear.

Nevertheless, the Mozambican people and their glorious FPLM are aware of their roles, and they continue and will continue to stand firm by the intransigent defense of the revolutionary victories. They know that peace can only be achieved with weapons in hand.

After all, history has taught us to distinguish between friends and enemies.

RSA Violations

MB151517 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] The first anniversary of the signing of the Nkomati Accord will be marked tomorrow amid an atmosphere of internal, regional, and worldwide expectation because acts of violence and terrorism against Mozambique continue to take place from South Africa in violation of the accord.

In its 2-page editorial, the weekly magazine *TEMPO* regrets the unintelligible fact that the South African Government does not see to the full compliance of Article 3 of the Nkomati Accord and also the declaration read by President Pieter Botha on 3 October 1984. The *TEMPO* editorial stresses that the number of people murdered, vehicles damaged, trains attacked, and power lines sabotaged is very high. Moreover, it has become abundantly clear that there are attempts to provoke a terrorist escalation, mainly around Mozambican cities. In addition, since the signing of the Nkomati Accord, there have been confirmed cases of infiltration of armed bandits in Niassa and Cabo Delgado Provinces, and throughout the country foreign nationals are regarded as military targets, as stated by the Lisbon-based bandit spokesmen.

In its last column, the *TEMPO* editorial adds that now, more than ever before, it has become clear that only gunfire is the appropriate answer to armed banditry. The editorial hails the demolishing actions of our army, the FPLM, against the bandits, in that it is the only language understood by those who see a sign of weakness when one talks of peace. This week's *TEMPO* editorial adds that South Africa is among those who regard dialogue aimed at peace as a sign of weakness.

New Tete Provincial Military Commander Named

MB161157 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Text] Major General Americo Mpfumo is the new Tete Provincial military commander. At a ceremony held on Monday in Tete town, Maj Gen Americo Mpfumo was introduced to officers of defense and security forces. The new military commander for Tete Province was presented by Lieutenant General Oswaldo Tazama, secretary of state for war veterans.

MNR Leader on RSA Ties, Aid to Movement, Government

PM141602 Paris LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS in French 11 Mar 85 p 22

[Interview with Mozambican National Resistance Movement Secretary General Evo Fernandes by Jean-Marc Kalfleche — date and place not given]

[Text] Mozambican National Resistance Movement Secretary General Evo Fernandes agreed to answer questions asked by *LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS*, especially the questions being asked in the Quai d'Orsay after South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha's visit to Roland Dumas: What is the present state of relations between Renamo and Pretoria?

They are fairly bad, was roughly Evo Fernandes' reply: "Relations between Maputo and South Africa have reached a peak. They were already excellent before the Nkomati Accord (last year). Just think, there had only been four border incidents between the Frelimo (government party) forces and the South Africans in 10 years, since independence.

"Pik Botha is now head of the pro-Samora Machel lobby in Pretoria. Nkomati merely made official the excellence of their relations and Frelimo's recognition of South African supremacy in the region."

"It was Frelimo that asked Pretoria to organize negotiations with us. On 20 November last year we ended that farce, because Pik was not neutral and went so far as to dream up with Chester Crocker the creation of a joint American-South African fund for 'transferring' our righters to Samora's army or to the Transvaal mines....

"We replied by stepping up our offensive.... We will now no longer negotiate only on the hypothesis of negotiations. Furthermore, we will not accept any settlement without free elections, and Frelimo will never accept that."

A Truly National Movement

"In 1980 we were only strong in Manica Province on the border with Zimbabwe. Our movement is now truly national and not tribal in the 10 provinces of Mozambique, and this is unique in Africa.

"In short, we are in the same position as Frelimo was 10 years ago except that, in the struggle against the Portuguese, it only really succeeded in controlling the northern provinces — Cabo Delgado, Nyasa, Tete — and the northern part of the central provinces — Manica, Sofala."

[Kalfleche] But who is arming Frelimo if not the South Africans, and, they say, the Arabs?

[Fernandes] But Samora's own army is completely demoralized, and we can take anything we want from it. Maputo's propaganda itself admits that South Africa has not given us anything since Nkomati. It merely refers to South African billionaries, the large Portuguese community in Johannesburg, and anything at all....

Zimbabwe's Aid to Maputo

It is also claimed that Malawi is arming us. But why would it do that when we have cut off the railroad which is its only outlet to the sea, through the ports of Beira and Nakala? Why would it do that when we have closed the only road which links it with Zimbabwe via Tete Province? If Malawi was helping us, surely we would have to make some concessions to it.

People talk without any evidence. For instance, there is talk of parachute drops. If they existed, do you not think Frelimo and its allies would find traces of them? Would they not display the evidence?

[Kalfleche] Who exactly is giving military aid to Maputo?

[Fernandes] First, the Zimbabweans. Almost 5,000 of them have been deployed to protect the Beira-Umtali pipeline, the railroad to (Umtare), and the road to Malawi. Then there are the Tanzanians, almost 3,000 in the north, and also in the center. Finally, there are the Soviets and their little comrades, whose only role is that of advisers.

And Soviets

The Soviets, 250 of them, deal with general staff matters, command the brigades, and go down to battalion level. There are around 300 East Germans, responsible for training, telecommunications, logistics, and intelligence.... There are also 1,000 Cuban company officers and 80 North Koreans, who formed the 8th Brigade.... But none of those people are very efficient. We have already won the strategic war, and the government is now only defending the main cities and the essential communication routes. I forgot to mention that South Africa is also helping Maputo at the military level: It is supplying the combat rations.

[Kalfleche] What does it stand to gain from that?

[Fernandes] Pretoria thinks it is a good thing to be allegedly surrounded by countries which are reputed to be "left-wing" but are really clients and vassals. It is a good way for the South African Government to avoid excessively strong Western pressures to speed up internal change.

Mozambique Is Not Angola

Chester Crocker has the same aim, but for ever subtler reasons. There are signs of a revolt in the United States against his policy of "constructive engagement" in southern Africa. To protect himself on the left, he needs Machel, who has just obtained American military aid amounting to $20 million. Crocker would like us to reopen negotiations, even if it is to no purpose.... However, our aim is to win, and we will launch an offensive as soon as the rains end in May.

[Kalfleche] There would then be a risk of Samora Machel turning to the USSR again and reminding it of the friendship treaty which it signed with Mozambique in 1977.

[Fernandes] we do not think so. Moscow's relations with Machel are already bad. Of course, the Soviets did not understand the Nkomati agreement. It reminded them of Brest-Litovsk in 1917: taking two steps forward and one step back.... In addition, their vital interests were not affected. The Marxist-Leninist framework remained. The ports — Nakala, Beira, and Maputo — remained under their control, as did the Army. But there are nonetheless limits which cannot be overstepped, and Samora Machel did so with South Africa, much to the annoyance of the whole continent.

Furthermore, who would pay for a massive Soviet intervention? It would take a minimum of 20,000 to 30,000 men, when they are already bogged down in Angola, Ethiopia, and Afghanistan.... Mozambique is not Angola. It does not have any oil or diamonds as yet: It cannot pay...and a massive Soviet intervention would mark the end of any South African economic aid because Pretoria cannot alter the fact that its white public opinion would not tolerate a Soviet intrusion at the gates of the Transvaal. We are spoiling everybody's little game, and it is too late to stop us from succeeding.

SOUTH AFRICA

R.F. Botha on Nkomati Accord, Mozambique Talks

MB171226 Johannesbrug Domestic Service in English 1715 GMT 17 Mar 85

[From the "Top Level" program presented by Victor Mackeson — recorded]

[Text] [Mackeson] The Accord of Nkomati between South Africa and Mozambique was a year old yesterday, and at the time of its signing, it was seen as opening up tremendous opportunities for the entire subcontinent. There were, of course, problems, many problems, at the time the accord was signed, not least of these being a guerrilla war in Mozambique. Foreign Minister Pik Botha:

[Botha] From the beginning, there was conflict, there was a war, whatever you want to call it, being waged in Mozambique, and we did not underestimate the difficulties which we expected at that time in attempting to end that war. Apparently, the war has increased, the conflict has increased, and that has made the full implementation of the accord more difficult, particularly its implied expectations, namely, larger economic cooperation. Tourists will not go there in large numbers. They fear that they will be blown up. Investors from all over the world are really scared to come and invest on a large scale. If the country's infrastructure — its railways lines, power lines, roads — are disrupted and do not function well, then the country cannot import or export, so it affects the whole economic development of Mozambique very seriously, and it affects us. It affects our direct material interests. Maputo harbor remains the cheapest export port for South Africa, for the whole Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging area, so we have a direct interest in trying to end the war. We do not underestimate the difficulties. We have made various attempts to assist in bringing this war to an end. So far we have not been successful. That does not mean that we must give up hope.

[Mackeson] The Nkomati Accord is, of course, not the only South African-Mozambique agreement that is at stake today. Mr Botha explains:

[Botha] We tend to forget that there are other agreements also in force between the two countries. There is, firstly, the very important Mozambique Convention, which provides for the recruitment of labor and the use of Maputo harbor — a very important agreement. You can very readily see the importance of this agreement if I say to you that roughly 50,000 Mozambican workers are working in South Africa in terms of that agreement, and they earn roughly 200 million rands, and they remit roughly half that amount to their families. We estimate, of course, that there could be up to 100,000 illegal entrants from Mozambique working in various sectors of our private sector and on farms and also they would most probably remit vast amounts to their families back home.

Then there is, of course, the agreement between South African Transport Services and the Mozambique Railways, concluded in 1979, which is a b usiness agreement, also a very important one, in the mutual interests, bilateral interests, of both countries.

Then, in 1983, South Africa, Swaziland, and Mozambique concluded an agreement in respect of cooperation on common rivers. Then there is the 1984 Cahora Bassa agreement which, for the first time, gave Mozambique a share in the tariff paid for delivered power.

The point I wanted to make is, not only the Nkomati Accord is jeopardized by conflict in Mozambique. All these other agreements cannot be fully implemented, so South Africa has a real and important interest in achieving peace in Mozambique. Our material interests are directly affected, and negatively affected. I want to make it absolutely clear that the South African Government is doing its best to facilitate the achievement of peace and a cease-fire in Mozambique.

[Mackeson] South Africa has been and is constantly accused of forcing Mozambique into this agreement.

[Botha] That is not correct. President Machel voluntarily, openly, accepted this accord because he saw that as a way to serve the best interests of his people. After all, we are neighboring states. The question that must be asked is, why should we not have it? It would, indeed, in my opinion, be bad if we do not have it. That would be indicative of bad relations with our neighbors. One simply cannot have this geographic proximity, you cannot have the railway line, you cannot have a host of other cooperative projects without engaging in bilateral agreements. I believe that is just part of a propaganda campaign, that is just part of the general campaign to jeopardize the agreement. There are elements in the world who did not like it, did not like it from the beginning, and would not hesitate to try and break it up if they could.

[Mackeson] What of Renamo? What is the position of that organization and is it not perhaps being used by the international anti-South African lobby — either willingly or unwillingly — to widen the rift between Pretoria and Maputo?

[Botha] Renamo is fighting its own war for its own purposes. I do not believe that they particularly welcomed the Nkomati Accord because it gives President Machel an opportunity to rationalize his economic development. It certainly holds a lot of advantages for Mozambique, for the Mozambican Government and, after all, we have done quite a lot in the past year, by means of credit facilites and investors that went there. Mozambique became a member of the IMF, which would give it in turn great financial capabilities, new loans, cheap interest rates, and so forth.

But there are other elements in the world, in Africa and elsewhere, who never liked the accord. They were suspicious from the beginning. You know what they said — that this was an entrenchment of apartheid or racial discrimination policies of this government. Now, I could never understand that because it does not matter which government really is in power in Mozambique from that point of view. That government and this government, irrespective of the government here, too, would be foolish not to endeavor to cooperate like good neighbors in the interests of both countries. Those who do not like the accord, who would rather see it destroyed, certainly would wish the war to be increased, expanded, and the violence, murdering, killing of people — it would be in their interests to show both President Machel and us up, show us up as two governments that could not bring peace and therefore the Nkomati Accord becomes incapable of implementation.

[Mackeson] Nevertheless, despite all South Africa's assurances, the Mozambique Government seems more than a little wary of grasping the hand of friendship extended by South Africa. At times, in fact, they seem almost eager to believe this country's opponents.

[Botha] I suppose you cannot really blame the Government of Mozambique if they have suspicions. I do not think that they are suspicious of my governemnt's intentions. Our personal relationships — the discussions in which I was involved, and General Malan — made it clear to me that on a personal basis, as you sit there around a table and have lunches and dinners together, there is nothing wrong, there is nothing suspicious in the attitudes of us vis-a-vis one another as human beings, as persons.

Their suspicions are based, rather, on indications that they have elements in this country who might be assisting Renamo — and perhaps did — and in other countries of Africa. You must not lose sight of the fact that they also make similar accusations as regards the use of territories of other African countries, in order to assist Renamo.

Now, I think they thought that we should have made a greater effort to bring Renamo to a halt, to force it to cease the violence. I think they might be thinking that we could have done more, but after the last meeting on Thursday, when I was there in Maputo... [sentence incomplete]

[Mackeson] As Mr Botha has just mentioned, he was in the Mozambican capital as recently as Thursday. What was the subject of these discussions?

[Botha] We dealt in detail with all the allegations and charges submitted to us by Mozambique over a number of months, and in some cases the two sides agreed that a particular charge or charges were thoroughly investigated, and that there was no substance in the charges of violation of the Nkomati Accord from South African territory. At no stage has the Mozambican Government accused the South African Government as such of violating the provisions of the accord.

What they have done is, they have pointed out, and they have given us, indications of violations from our territory, just as they have done in respect of other African countries, so South Africa is not the only one, or the only territory, from which, according to them, assistance is being rendered to Renamo.

It is quite clear to me that they are very suspicious that Renamo is still being supplied with arms and equipemnt from South Africa, South African territory, from Malawi, even Kenya, and other African countries. They indicated that they also have

evidence of equipment being landed by boat somewhere along their shores. They will later give us more information about that.

They complained about the presence in some of our military units stationed near the border, the presence of Mozambicans in those units. This gives you a rough idea of the matters we dealt with. We did so openly, and a member of the Mozambique Government told me subsequently that they were very pleased with the way that we dealt with all these charges on that particular day.

[Mackeson] What, then, of the ANC and others of their ilk? Surely, the more successful South Africa is in improving relations with Mozambique, the less they will like it.

[Botha] This is the problem. There are so many diverse, and a variety of, elements who really desire the Nkomati Accord to break up. Certainly, the ANC would welcome a break-up, so would Renamo, so would certain, I think, financiers in Latin American countries and Europe. Some are anti-communist, others are pro-communist. But it does not matter. There is, there are quite a number of elements representing opposite ideological poles who would not wish the Nkomati Accord to succeed.

[Mackeson] You have spoken before about these big economic powers and corporate organizations and perhaps business associations that want a foot in the door in Mozambique. Now, although Mozambique has lots of minerals, a lot of it is undeveloped and very expensive to develop. What could they hope to get out of being more in control of Mozambique?

[Botha] I think some instances, in some cases, you are dealing with persons who feel that they must take revenge on history. Like the Ayatollah Khomeyni, that they must get back what they were robbed of. Others harbor old political desires, probably wish to see Mozambique return to the former era, in terms of which, this time, they can use lack of persons as politicians, and really get a foothold, a grip, on the country, and perhaps get their possessions returned that way.

[Mackeson] Renamo, it would also appear, is a major stumbling block to the normalization of Mozambican-South African relations. Is peace possible in these circumstances?

[Botha] I cannot see this happening in the short term, but that does not mean that we must — I think Mozambique and ourselves must continue to consult, make proposals as we have done last Thursday. I believe that I have made some constructive proposals to them. We must work at it. We must work at the peace. We must not give up hope.

R.F. Botha, Tutu Cited on Ways To Change Policy

MB190718 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, says the South African Government is opposed to pressure from outside to change its policies. In a debate with the Anglican bishop of Johannesburg, Bishop Desmond Tutu, televised by ABC television in the United States, Mr Botha said the government would prefer to work with black leaders who opposed outside interference, and who did not advocate disinvestment as a means of forcing South Africa to change its policies. He said the government was willing to negotiate with anyone who was prepared to renounce violance as a tool to end apartheid.

Bishop Tutu was critical of the government, saying that the 24 million blacks in South Africa could not vote for candidates of their choice, and that he was not free to travel. He also said that most blacks eschewed violence. Bishop Tutu said that although he did not specifically urge people to divest themselves of property in South Africa, the only option left was to seek international assistance to help bring about change.

Johannesburg, ANC View Nkomati Accord

'Necessary' for Development

MB161115 Johannesburg International in English 0630 GMT 16 Mar 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] At a meeting in Maputo, senior government ministers have signed a declaration renewing the commitments of the governments of South Africa and Mozambique to the accord of Nkomati, the 1-year-old security and cooperation treaty.

The statement provided the answer of the two sides to the recent growing speculation about a rift and even the possible failure of the accord. Most of the speculation obviously emanated from circles that have been hostile to the accord since it was signed.

The truth is that Nkomati contains the promise of such tremendous benefits for both South Africa and Mozambique, and in the longer term for all of southern Africa, that allowing it to collapse is simply not on. It was the first major concrete step toward a far-reaching change of climate in southern Africa, a shift away from the era of confrontation from which all the countries in the region have suffered. The goals the treaty sought out are as valid now as they were then: firstly, replacing that era of conflict with regional commitement to peaceful co-existance, and secondly, moving from there into a dispensation of active cooperation among countries for economic development.

It was far-fetched to imagine that Nkomati Accord heralded 1,000 years of peace and brotherhood and a sudden conversions of the forces of violence in the region to the cause of peaceful cooperation, certainly not in this (?broken) and divided world. What it did represent was the coming to terms with the imperfections of the world and acceptance of the hard realities of Africa and a [words indistinct] will divert and even (?sanction) political and ideological interests.

The accord was not an end in itself but was a necessary milestone placed along the road to a realistic improvement in relations which [words indisitnct] (?enough preconditions for) meaningful, social, and economic development in southern Africa. Such is the geographic interdependence of southern Africa that regional security and cooperation across the frontiers are necessary conditions for any of its members to overcome (?hardship) and realize

their development potential. For all states in the region, the peace initiatives for the past year have presented the opportunity to create a new pattern of international relations that will improve economic and political prospects immeasurably. What it requires to succeed is a desire to patch up the differences through negotiation and the rejection of any action that would undermine the security of a member states. An accord provides a neccessary framework for such an advance, but it is the spirit manifested by all participants on the southern African arena that will make it work.

Renamo Obstacle to Stability

MB180936 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Station commentary: "The Nkomati Accord"]

[Text] There is no doubt that southern Africa as a whole can once again breathe a sigh of relief following the announcement that both South Africa and Mozambique have confirmed their commitment to the Nkomati Accord, now 1 year old. The renewed commitment follows the visit to Maputo by South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha and the minister of defense, General Magnus Malan.

In a joint statement, both sides said it was essential for the development of southern Africa that the pact be fully implemented. What is important is the realization by the two sides that the Nkomati Accord is essential for southern African development as a whole. The symbolic and practical value of Nkomati should never be underestimated.

What Nkomati showed was that two countries which had been overtly hostile towards each other are capable of putting aside animosity and entering into a far-reaching and beneficial agreement. This development definitely had a ripple effect in southern Africa, in that subsequently there was a marked improvement in relations between Soth Africa and other neighboring states, such as Lesotho and Botswana.

At the same time, the Western world — also for a long time wary over the neo-Marxist policies pursued by Mozambique — began to look at that country with new eyes, realizing that President Samora Machel was fully capable of implementing pragmatic policies beneficial to the region as a whole.

However, it remains true that the continued Renamo violence in Mozambique is bedeviling the proper implementation of the Nkomati Accord, because it has obstructed development programs in that country.

This is fully realized by South Africa, with the result that the South African Government has adpted a hard-line approach towards Renamo. State President P.W. Botha told Renamo that it should reflect urgently on the destructive consequences to all people of Mozambique of its continued campaign of violence. Renamo should also reflect urgently on the damage being done to the interests of Mozambique's neigbors.

Certainly, it is high time that Renamo took a new and hard look at the situation. Right now, it is the only factor standing in the way of renewed hope and development for Mozambique. The West and South Africa are standing by with aid, assistance, and expertise. It remains only for stability to be restored in Mozambique, and that lies in the hands of Renamo.

ANC: Accord 1-Sided

MB150901 Lusaka Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1700 GMT 14 Mar 85

[Text] With the signing of the [word indistinct] so-called peace accord at Nkomati last March between the apartheid regime in Pretoria and the People's Republic of Mozambique, the ANC in a [word indistinct] clear statement pointed out that the pact was a 1-sided issue which will never work, that it was aimed at turning Mozambique into a (?client) state of apartheid South Africa.

Just recently, or, to be more precise, last Friday, 8 March, a meeting of Frontline heads of states held in Lusaka, Zambia, bitterly acknowledged this grim fact. In a joint communique released in the press after the heads of state meeting, the Nkomati Accord was denounced as having nothing. The Frontline heads of state noted that the People's Republic of Mozambique signed the agreement in good faith expecting the apartheid regime to fulfill its side of the accord and stop supporing armed bandits of the MNR, but that this had not been the case. This point of view was further highlighted by the Mozambican news agency, AIM. To try to save the already crumbling dirty face of Nkomati, the apartheid regime in Pretoria has hastily dispatched its generals for talks with the Mozambican Government. As usual the regime's generals, masquerading as peace brokers, paraded their dirty faces in front of the Mozambicans claiming to be bringing a gospel message of peace, cooperation, stability, and development.

But what has been happening in the last 12 months? Haven't the people of Mozambique suffered in the face of the racist-backed counterrevolutionary bandits known as MNR? From the regime's point of view, Mozambicans are like black South Africans, incapable of managing their own affairs.

The apartheid system in South Africa is a colonial system. Its fundamental mentality is based on domination. In the hawk-like eyes of the regime's [words indistinct], Mozambique and other neighboring independent African states are [word indistinct] of influence which cannot be left out of sight.

The visit to Mozambique by the apartheid regime's representatives [words indistinct] should be seen within this context. It was not undertaken in the interests of the struggling people of Mozambique, but to save the already crumbling interests of fascism and racist domination. To our people and the people of the subcontinent, the saying, once bitten twice shy, should be noted and underlined with great care.

The apartheid regime has never ever been serious or committed in its undertakings. Its bloody history of repression and domination, its [word indistinct] empty promises which were never fulfilled right up to this day of the [word indistinct].

Mozambique, then, has come as no exception. What now remains for Mozambique, however, is what course of action will it take. That action, in our opinion, is for the people of the Republic of Mozambique to like never before close ranks and entrench [words indistinct] in the face of revolution. The apartheid regime in Pretoria is no ally and will never be one. Like cancer, it should be isolated and destroyed, for its a source of anger and tension in the region.

RAND DAILY MAIL To Close End of April

MB151636 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1619 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Johannesburg, March 15, SAPA — The *RAND DAILY MAIL* will close down at the end of April and the *SUNDAY EXPRESS* and *SUNDAY STAR* will merge with a fifty per cent SAAN [South African Associated Newspapers]/Argus shareholding, a SAAN source said tonight.

BUSINESS DAY will be launched as a national financial daily from May 1.

Matters concerning staff would be announced later, sources said.

SWAZILAND

Prime Minister Comments on Nkomati Accord

MB170622 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER in English 16 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] Swaziland is hoping the talks between South Africa and Mozambique to salvage the Nkomati Accord, which the two countries signed in March 16 last year, will be a success.

Prime Minister Prince Bhekimpi said the outcome of the talks will have an effect on Swaziland, more so because she borders both countries.

The South African minister for foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, is currently in Mozambique along with senior members of his government to try and salvage the accord on its first anniversary.

There has been accusations by Mozambique that South Africa has failed to keep its side of the bargain.

Prince Bhekimpi told the Netherlands ambassador to Swaziland, Mr Hugo Carsten, who paid a courtesy call on him yesterday, that it was extremely difficult to name the source of failure since Mozambique was blaming South Africa and the republic was claiming it has kept its side of the bargain.

The prime minister said: "We don't know whether these rebels who are said to be stumbling blocks in the accord are actually in Mozambique or are sponsored by South Africa.

"We, however, hope the discussions will benefit both parties. Swaziland has always wished for peace to prevail in the region and the world at large."

He said the rebels have been particularly cruel to the economy of Swaziland in that they have time and again sabotaged the Mozambique-Swaziland rail link.

He confirmed that goods from Swaziland to Mozambique are railed only during the day. At night, they are suspended because that is when real danger lurks.

Ambassador Cartsen said Swaziland shared many similarties with the Netherlands.

The first being that they both have queens as heads. In the Netherlands, the head of State is Queen Beatrix and her son is studying in the United Kingdom. In Swaziland there is the Queen Regent Ntombi whose son, Crown Prince Makhosetive, is studying in Sherbourne Study centre also in the UK. Mr Cartsen hoped that the two Princes might meet in England.

ZIMBABWE

Kenyan Envoy Denies Aid to MNR 'Bandits'

MB190704 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] The Kenyan high commissioner to Zimbabwe, Mr Mzuki Mbaya, has reacted to an article that appeared in the local press recently (?where) the South African foreign minister, Pik Botha, alleges that Kenya is amoung countries giving aid to the so-called Mozambique National Resistance bandits.

In a press statement released in Harare yesterday, Mr Mbaya said the Botha statement is a blatant lie and must be treated with the contempt it deserves. The high commissioner said Kenya believes in practicing the policy of good-neighborliness and noninteference in the internal affairs of other foreign states. He added Mozambique is a friendly country to Kenya, and the Nairobi government would never aid bandits seeking to overthrow the popular government of the people of Mozambique.